



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2013

House of Representatives

In Recognition of the Life and Legacy of Gloria Johnson

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2013

MRS. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I mourn the passing of one of San Diego's greatest advocates for women's and LGBT equality, Gloria Johnson.

Gloria Johnson has moved on but her legacy as a San Diego champion of limitless equality will not be forgotten. Gloria has participated and organized civil rights and peace movements for more than 50 years. She has received many awards and honors that make evident her commitment to equality for all.

Gloria's commitment to humanity was not only apparent in her volunteerism, but also through her professional career as a social worker. While working for the County of San Diego, Gloria was one of the first in San Diego County to work with people diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in the AIDS Case Management Program.

After Gloria retired from her 30 years as a social worker with San Diego County, she was just getting started. Not only was Gloria committed to equality for women and LGBT issues, she was committed to working closely with elected officials on all levels to create the progress she so deeply sought.

Gloria was even more in life than the impressive list of her accomplishments on paper. Having worked closely with her for decades, I remember her energy and her unforgettable smile. She was just so vibrant. Gloria was always there at big events in San Diego and small ones wearing stickers and buttons proclaiming loud and clear what she thought needed to happen. I can remember so many times pulling up in the parking lot for an event and seeing her tiny car covered in clever bumper stickers already there and knowing that Gloria would be there as always, early and enthusiastic. Gloria's positive vibe and commitment to justice year in and year out were simply contagious.

I'm glad she got to bear witness to so much progress in her lifetime. She was so proud of the women and gay and lesbian people in public office in San Diego and of all the milestones those two movements achieved in the past half century thanks to Gloria and those like her.

As we all remember Gloria's strong commitment to equality, let's commit to working hard for women and members of the LGBT community so we can ensure that Gloria's life work will not be in vain.