World War II Memorial that was built to honor the 16 million Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, Coast Guardsmen, and Merchant Mariners who served our Nation during World War II.

With the strong belief that everything good in his life is because of these courageous veterans, Mr. Miller began a campaign to send every World War II veteran from Henderson County to Washington, DC to see the memorial, which opened in 2004. World War II veterans who had not already been to the memorial and had physical or financial limitations were offered the chance to take the trip. The community came together to raise the money to fund the project. Many community groups, businesses and individuals contributed to this project, allowing these brave veterans to travel to Washington to see the memorial that was built in their honor. Mr. Miller, the Honor Air volunteers and contributors have all given something back to those for whom the debt can never be repaid. By the time it makes its last flight, 625 veterans from Hendersonville, NC will have made the Honor Air trip.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in expressing my appreciation and admiration for Jeff Miller, who made it possible for so many of our veterans to have the opportunity to see the National World War II Memorial.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF U.S. NAVY PETTY OFFICER MATTHEW J. O'BRYANT

HON. JO BONNIE
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. BONNIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember the life and contributions of Petty Officer Third Class Matthew J. O'Bryant. Petty Officer O'Bryant was killed in a terrorist attack at the Marriott Hotel in Islamabad, Pakistan, a cowardly act that claimed the lives of 53 people including two members of our country's armed forces. Matthew was serving in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

A native of Theodore, AL, Matthew O'Bryant excelled in the ROTC program at Theodore High School and was assigned to Navy Information Operations Command at Fort Meade, MD, as a cryptologic technician.

As a cryptologic technician, Petty Officer O'Bryant was in charge of maintaining the advanced communications and technological equipment so vital to America's success in 21st century warfare.

Petty Officer O'Bryant's brother, along with two of his cousins, had enlisted to serve in the Navy. Coming from a Navy family, Petty Officer O'Bryant was deployed to Pakistan for only 30 days before the blast that took his life. His father, a former Marine, later remembered him by saying, "There were four of us in the Navy. Well, there's three of us now. I guess there will always be four of us because he will always be in the Navy."

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to take a moment to reflect upon the many things that have helped to make this the greatest country on the face of the planet. And to that end, we must acknowledge that soldiers, airmen, and men like Petty Officer O'Bryant deserve the highest praise for their unselfish service and, in this particular case, for their willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice.

My thanks to the families of Petty Officer O'Bryant for their sacrifice.

Authorization for funding the national crime victim law institute for victims under criminal victim legal assistance programs as part of the crime of victim of criminal victim legal assistance programs as a part of the Victims of Crime Act of 1994.