

Mr. Chairman, Lt. Cmdr. Ghanbari, Vice Chair Loychik, Ranking Member, Col. Miller, Representative Lampton and Co-sponsors; Distinguished Members of the Committee, I am Colonel Cavanaugh's youngest son John. I brought his cover today. It was last worn at the Grand Opening of the National Veterans Memorial and Museum down the street.

My Dad and my eldest sister Joan flew up from Boston to attend that special event where we got to see the unveiling of my grandfather's Naval officer's sword, one of the very first artifacts donated to the museum. The text of this resolution also notes the bench dedicated to my parents in the Memorial Grove. I go there often to reflect on the service of our greatest generation and to say a prayer for all our fallen soldiers.

With your permission, I would like to highlight a few excerpts from [an article](#) about my family from the Veterans Memorial blog:

My grandfather was born in Columbus and enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1920. My Mom, Ginny, vividly recalled being stationed in Panama on December 7, 1941. Grandpa became a decorated WWII hero after rescuing desperate sailors from a burning munitions ship sinking off the coast of Italy.

In 1945, Lt. Cmdr. Huff's final tour of duty was Captain of the USS Constitution docked in Boston Harbor. By then, my Mom had joined the Women's Army Air Corps. With her top-secret security clearance, she was assigned to work on the USS Nautilus nuclear submarine project at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

There, she fell in love and married a handsome Army Corps of Engineers 2nd Lt., William J. Cavanaugh. My Dad's own uniquely American story took him from the Boston public housing projects to MIT ROTC. Upon graduation, he went on active duty during the Korean War, teaching marksmanship and basic training to soldiers before they were shipped overseas.

My father faithfully remained in the Army Reserves until his retirement in 1982 as a "full-bird". As you know, Col. Cavanaugh's very first architectural design was the battlefield acoustics lab still in use today at Wright Patterson AFB in Dayton. Eventually, he founded his own acoustical consulting firm, Cavanaugh Tocci Associates, now based in Sudbury, Massachusetts.

When my Mom passed away Thanksgiving of 2010, my siblings and I knew my Dad would have a tough time during the holiday season without his life partner of 60 years. So my wife Lilly and I began a new tradition of bringing him here to Columbus for Christmas and other special occasions.

Before his visit in December of 2011, he asked me to arrange a trip to Wright Patt so he could see a building he worked on, but had never actually seen in person. This was not particularly noteworthy at the time, because my Dad was always excitedly pointing out his consulting projects which seem to exist nearly everywhere we go.

For example, some of you may have gone to a concert at the Polaris Amphitheater he before it became an IKEA store. Most of you have probably taken the DC Metro at some point. It is one of the quietest subway systems in our country due to my Dad's design. I know at least one member of this esteemed committee is a proud Air Force Academy graduate. Yes my father secretly helped with that too - including on the plans for the inspiring campus chapel.

Perhaps because of his humility and preference to shift credit to others, I did not fully appreciate his true brilliance and incredible professional impact until I was asked to sign off on his oral history transcript for the Niels Bohr archives of the American Institute of Physics. I was a bit surprised my father was being featured in the library named after the Nobel prize winning scientist who mapped the atom and developed quantum theory. I was further stunned to learn that AIP also houses Einstein's papers!

According to his colleagues at the Acoustical Society of America, my father literally "changed the world as we hear it". His original blueprints for the Air Force Research facility continue to contribute to our national security even 65 years after construction. So please honor his life and service by endorsing this naming request.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be happy to address any questions you may have as long as they don't involve highly technical topics such as thermodynamics or combat engineering. That's the kind of stuff I wish my Dad was still here to joyfully explain to anyone willing to listen.

However, I did bring along his book on *Architectural Acoustics: Principles and Practice* which might contain answers to things way over my head.