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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE *112<sup>th</sup>* CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

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## *House of Representatives*

### VISCLOSKY HONORS SPECIALIST AUGUSTUS J. VICARI

**Mr. Speaker:** It is with great respect and deep sadness that I wish to commend United States Army National Guard Specialist Augustus “Augy” J. Vicari for his bravery and willingness to fight for his country. Specialist Vicari, who was a member of Headquarters Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 279<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 45<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Army National Guard out of Sand Springs, Oklahoma, was killed while on foot patrol when his unit was hit by an improvised explosive device in Afghanistan on July 29, 2011. His sacrifice will forever be remembered by those he fought to protect.

A native of Lowell, Indiana, Augy graduated from Lowell High School in 2008. After graduating, he and his wife, Holly, moved to Oklahoma where Augy joined the Oklahoma National Guard and completed basic training in 2009. He was deployed to Afghanistan on June 21, 2011. Friends and family remember Augy for his quick wit and ready smile. He enjoyed working on cars and spending time with friends. Although only a young man, Augy gained immense respect from those around him, and he was admired in his communities. He will be greatly missed and forever cherished by those who loved him.

Specialist Vicari leaves behind a loving family. He is survived by his devoted wife, Holly, his adoring parents, Michael and Evelyn Vicari, and his wife’s parents, Charles (Tori) Peters and Sheila Howerton. Augy also leaves to cherish his memory his siblings: Joseph, Michael, Emily and Mollie, as well as his grandmother, Linda Slankard and his great grandmothers: Berniece Slankard and Shirley Peterson. He also leaves behind many other dear friends and family members, as well as a saddened community and a grateful nation.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring a fallen hero, United States Army National Guard Specialist Augustus J. Vicari. Specialist Vicari sacrificed his life in service to his country, and his passing comes as a great loss to our nation, which has once again been shaken by the realities of war. Specialist Vicari will forever remain a hero in the eyes of his family, his community, and his country. Thus, let us never forget the sacrifice he made to preserve the ideals of freedom and democracy.