

3/6/2008 - One Minute Speech on Constituent Dr. Jack Smith

Madam Speaker,

I wanted to take a moment to recognize a great American, a constituent of mine from Bayonne, New Jersey, Dr. Jack Smith. After seeing the second plane hit the World Trade Center on 9-11, Dr. Smith immediately left his Bayonne practice and went to help treat victims in lower Manhattan. He said he felt the world had changed that day and he decided to enlist in the Army Medical Reserve at 49 years old.

Dr. Smith has since served two tours overseas. He was sent on his first tour to Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan where he served in the 325th combat support hospital unit. His second tour was with the First Squadron of the 167th R-S-T-A Cavalry Unit in Iraq. There he worked at the battalion aid station, the Air Force Theatre Hospital, and gave medical support for two intelligence gathering missions outside the wire.

When asked about managing his service, family, and his practice, Dr. Smith says he's been blessed. I believe we are blessed to have individuals like Dr. Smith serving our country. His courage and service are an example to us all, and I want to thank him, and his family, for his service.

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