Brian Burke left California on Tuesday with both a Leaf victory and the memory of a lifetime.

In a private ceremony before Monday's game against the Ducks, Burke received a congressional citation for his charitable works while working in Anaheim.

"I was flattered to be acknowledged," said Burke on Wednesday. "It was really touching."

Burke was honoured by congressman John Campbell especially for his support of U.S. troops.

"Mr. Burke organized a first-of-its-kind two-day event to support the families of active duty military personnel at the Honda Center in 2008," Campbell read into the congressional record on Oct. 15. "The event, which included Ducks' players and their families, welcomed Operation Homefront – a non-profit organization that provides emergency assistance and morale to our troops, the families they leave behind, and injured soldiers upon their return home."

Campbell also praised Burke for his involvement in Orange County charities.