

Jean have been happily married for 16 years, in the company of his children Jason and Kelly and stepdaughter Katie.

Sergeant Paul R. Daw's life of service and bravery is truly admirable. On behalf of New York's 21st District, it is my honor to recognize the remarkable life of Sergeant Paul R. Daw.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN  
HERO JEFF WILLIAMS

**HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 25, 2023*

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Jeff Williams. In 2012, Jeff founded Taste Project, an organization that provides meals in Fort Worth to those in need. Jeff knew what food scarcity felt like growing up in a family of 4 where both of his parents worked hard to keep food on the table even though money was tight. When he was younger, his parents would sometimes skip meals to make sure him and his sister had dinner. Jeff's upbringing gave him the idea to create a place where members of the community could go to always get an affordable meal. In 2017, the Taste Project opened a pay-what-you-can community restaurant in Fort Worth, the Taste Community Restaurant, where diners can pay as little as a penny for a meal. Beyond the restaurant, the Taste Project empowers and provides hope to North Texans through culinary classes, job training programs, and even a community garden that helps teach people gardening skills. In the last 6 years, Jeff and Taste Community Restaurant have helped more than 150,000 people and are currently serving more than 1,000 people a week. Jeff and his team work hard every day to make sure they help as many people as possible. I'd like to thank Jeff for his dedication to serving the people and families of North Texas.

HONORING WILLIS JAMES ROCKWOOD ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 25, 2023*

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a local hero who bravely served and defended our Nation overseas, then returned home to build a thriving life and business back in Michigan. As Willis James Rockwood celebrates his 100th birthday, I pay tribute to his extraordinary life of service and dedication to his country, his family, and his community.

Willis Rockwood was born on August 26, 1923 in Long Rapids, Michigan. He enlisted in the United States Army where he proudly served as an infantryman and squad leader during World War II. His service took him across the world and back, fighting with and for our allies in the European and Pacific theaters. Willis' exemplary service earned him multiple awards and commendations, including a Good Conduct Medal and a letter of recognition from President Harry S. Truman.

Upon his honorable discharge, Willis returned to Michigan where he and his best

friend from the Army set out to use their skills and talents to build a life not just for themselves but for others, a plan that came together as Flositz and Rockwood Quality Home Builders. This successful construction company flourished for decades, and in 1949, the foundation of Willis' own family was installed when he married Marion Elizabeth Storing. They spent 65 wonderful years together until her passing in 2015, and their love expanded many times over with the additions of 3 children, 3 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren.

Willis Rockwood built his post-Army life in the Lansing, Michigan, area, where he has devoted himself to many organizations and community groups, including the American Legion Post No. 238, the Church of the Nazarene where he taught Sunday School, and his neighborhood watch, where he is known for generously shoveling driveways and sidewalks throughout the community. He is a man of many hobbies and talents, including wood carving, flying his plane, and bowling. And in the large and loving family he established, Willis is beloved as the historical archivist and storyteller, with a zest for life and a laugh that echoes across multiple generations.

Mr. Speaker, Willis Rockwood is a man who has spent his long and fruitful life deeply devoted to his family, his friends, his country, and his faith. Those who know and love him fondly refer to him as their "National Treasure," and I assert that he is just that. On the occasion of his 100th birthday, I salute his life of service, and want to reflect our community, our state, and our Nation's gratitude for all he has contributed and constructed.

RECOGNIZING TRENTON BRAZIE

**HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 25, 2023*

Ms. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Trenton Brazie, an Army veteran who continues to answer the call of service everyday as a firefighter, Emergency Medical Technician, and CPR public education instructor here in our South Sound community.

During his decade-long career in the Army, Trenton was deployed 3 times, completing a combat tour in Afghanistan and peace tours in Jordan and the United Arab Emirates. He also served with the 17th Field Artillery Brigade at Joint Base Lewis McChord, and served in roles that, in 10 years' time, increased in leadership responsibility, including team leader, squad leader, and platoon sergeant.

After the Army, Trenton reentered the civilian workforce with an eye towards community-centered service—he soon found himself with the Tumwater Fire Department, where he continues to work as a firefighter. And his service doesn't stop with fighting fires—he works to prepare and protect the community by teaching CPR and serving as an Emergency Medical Technician. Trenton is also pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Fire Service Administration at Eastern Oregon University, demonstrating his dedication to his own self-development as a public servant and emergency service professional.

As Washington continues to face a fierce fire season, I thank Trenton for his selfless service to our community and our country.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CRAIG  
ALLEN KEITH

**HON. JIM BANKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 25, 2023*

Mr. BANKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my friend, Craig Allen Keith, who passed away at Parkview Regional Medical Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana, on August 14, 2023.

Craig was born in Van Wert, Ohio on May 31, 1976. He was a 1994 graduate of Crestview High School in Convoy, Ohio, and earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from Indiana Wesleyan University in 2003. A consummate professional in domestic and international travel for 20 years, Craig served as Senior Commercial Account Project Manager at SIRVA BGRS Worldwide, Inc.

Craig attended Abundant Life Church for 30 years and held several leadership positions. He loved his church unconditionally and served the Lord with gladness all his days.

Craig loved entertaining and spending time with his friends and family. While grilling and smoking meats or baking his (in)famous chocolate chip cookies, he would tell jokes and fill the air with his full, boisterous laughter. Craig was an avid traveler who loved learning the history of the many destinations he visited. He sang loudly, off key, and with all his heart, in church and to the gospel music he loved so much.

Craig will be immensely missed and forever loved by all. He was preceded in death by his maternal and paternal grandparents. He is survived by his children, Gentry and Pierson Keith; mother, Sheila (Vince) Stone of Columbia City, IN; father, Leroy (Karen) Keith of St. Marys, OH; brother, Adam (Azeesat) Keith of Boston, MA; a stepsister, Tonya Kessler; a godson, Ethan Brownlee of Noblesville, IN; and a host of other relatives and close friends.

In the wake of his passing, I wish Craig's family peace, comfort, and joy in knowing he lived a happy and fulfilled life. Though he is no longer with us, his spirit lives on in the minds and souls of those whom he knew and loved most.

HONORING THE CAREER OF  
MAJOR LATERRIOUS "TONY"  
STARKS

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 25, 2023*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service of Major Laterrious "Tony" Starks, who served as a legislative liaison for the U.S. House of Representatives with profound duty, leadership, and commitment from January 2021 to August 2023. Major Starks served as a defense fellow for my office, and, as a legislative liaison, his interpersonal skills built countless relationships throughout Headquarters, Department of the Army, and Capitol Hill. These relationships enabled him to communicate the Army's narrative and facilitate senior leader engagements. In addition to the duties as a legislative

liaison, Major Starks expertly balanced a collateral duty as the White House Social Aide Senior Program Manager. His professionalism has resulted in strategic success across the Executive Branch. Due to his exceptional efforts, he was selected to lead over 100 White House events, to include two Medal of Honor Ceremonies and three State Visits.

In addition to his military-based contributions to our great nation, which have included service in many parts of the United States as well as in other countries, to include Germany and Korea, Major Starks is well-versed educationally, having invested himself in various levels of university programs. Major Starks's education includes studying at George Washington University, pursuing a master's degree in Legislative Affairs, from 2020 to 2021; studying at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a Strategic Studies Fellow, in 2019; studying at Abilene Christian University, pursuing a doctorate's degree in Education, from 2018 to 2021; and studying at Stephen F. Austin State University, pursuing an undergraduate degree in Political Science and Government, from 2006 to 2010. He is currently a doctoral candidate.

Major Starks is an outstanding individual who has already served his country in many ways, and it is my honor to esteem him today.

HONORING DR. WILLIAM BOONE  
UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM  
CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY

**HON. NIKEMA WILLIAMS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 25, 2023*

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Dr. William H. Boone on his retirement from the illustrious Atlanta-based HBCU Clark Atlanta University, his appointment as Professor Emeritus, and thank him for his impact on the people of Georgia's Fighting Fifth District.

Called the "Dean of Atlanta City Politics," Dr. Boone has spent the last 40 years researching, advising, and commenting on Atlanta political life and Black political power across the South. He earned the respect of his peers and colleagues, serving as Assistant Provost, Dean of Graduate Studies, and the Chair of the Political Science Department at Clark Atlanta University as well as a president of the National Conference of Black Political Science.

Dr. Boone's talent as an educator is evident by the students he has produced. The people of Atlanta, of Georgia, and of the South have greatly benefited from the thoughtful, critical, and thorough analysis and scholarship Dr. Boone and his students have produced and will continue to produce for decades. As we all know, Atlanta Influences Everything, especially Black political power. Dr. Boone's focus on Black politics has improved our understanding of our own community and America's understanding of the cultural and political factors that inform and shape our present.

Dr. Boone takes his role as a leader in Black intellectual thought seriously. He always aims to be unapologetic when looking at the Black experience in this country, and to critically examine how the American experience

affects Black people. And he always makes sure to connect training and education to activism; to fighting for our community.

Congratulations to the Dean of Atlanta City Politics, Dr. William Boone. The people of Georgia's 5th Congressional District have learned so much from him for the last 40 years, and we will continue to learn from him and those lucky enough to learn from him, for decades more to come. I hope he enjoys his retirement.

RECOGNIZING DR. CLARENCE B.  
JONES

**HON. RITCHIE TORRES**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 25, 2023*

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the historic "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., I rise to honor not only the transformative impact of this iconic address but also to recognize the significant contribution of Dr. Clarence B. Jones to its creation. Furthermore, it is imperative that we acknowledge the instrumental role that the vibrant Bronx neighborhood of Riverdale played in the enduring legacy of this momentous event.

The "I Have a Dream" speech, delivered on August 28, 1963, during the March on Washington, stands as an indelible marker of American history. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s eloquence and vision, as expressed in that speech, continue to inspire and challenge us to this day. His words called for unity, justice, and equality, transcending the barriers of time and space to resonate with generations that followed.

Yet, we must not forget the individuals who labored behind the scenes to shape Dr. King's words into a powerful message that moved hearts and ignited change. Among them, Dr. Clarence B. Jones, a brilliant and dedicated speechwriter, lawyer, and trusted advisor, played a pivotal role in crafting the speech's content. His intellect, passion, and commitment to justice were integral to capturing the essence of the civil rights movement and encapsulating the dreams and aspirations of millions.

Moreover, as we reflect on the "I Have a Dream" speech, we must recognize the Bronx neighborhood of Riverdale's important connection to this historic moment. Riverdale, known for its diverse community and rich cultural tapestry, served as an inspirational backdrop for discussions and dialogues that fueled the civil rights movement. It was a place where individuals from various walks of life gathered, exchanged ideas, and organized actions that contributed to the momentum for change.

Riverdale's commitment to social justice and equality is a testament to the enduring values that continue to shape our Nation. As we commemorate this 60th anniversary, let us not only celebrate the progress we have made but also recommit ourselves to the unfulfilled aspects of the dream. Let us strive for a society where justice prevails, where all individuals are judged by the content of their character, and where the legacy of the "I Have a Dream" speech lives on in our actions.

It is a great privilege to honor Dr. Clarence B. Jones' contribution to the crafting of the "I

Have a Dream" speech and in recognizing the vital role that the Bronx neighborhood of Riverdale played in shaping the ideals and aspirations that continue to guide our Nation toward a more just and equitable future.

RECOGNIZING TERESITA  
BATAYOLA, AAPCHO AND NACHC  
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
RECIPIENT

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 25, 2023*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Teresita Batayola for receiving lifetime achievement awards from the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO) and the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC).

Over the years, I have had the immense privilege of witnessing Teresita's tireless work to improve health outcomes for refugee, immigrant, and underserved communities in Washington's Ninth District and across the Puget Sound region. Teresita's career as the President and CEO of the International Community Health Services (ICHS) was remarkable. She helped transform ICHS from just 2 clinics into a growing regional health care network that continues to provide comprehensive care to over 27,000 patients.

Teresita's work went beyond just leading ICHS for 18 years. During her tenure at ICHS, she also took on leadership roles at the local and national level to help expand access to health care and other services for those that need it most. Her dedication to expanding health care access in Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities led her to serve on the AAPCHO's Board of Directors for well over a decade. Her years of steadfast leadership has been instrumental in advancing the resources and capacity of community health centers across the country, building a legacy that communities will continue to benefit from for decades to come. These lifetime achievement awards from AAPCHO and NACHC are a well-deserved testament to that legacy and to Teresita's exemplary service.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Teresita for her visionary leadership, and I congratulate her on these achievements.

IN MEMORY OF SSGT. DARREN  
JAMES BRETON

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 25, 2023*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of the life of Staff Sgt. Darren James "DJ" Breton, who has recently passed away at age 32, and to honor his service to the Nation.

Born in Wiesbaden, Germany, DJ embarked on a remarkable journey that took him across the globe and led him to proudly serve his country through his role as a crew chief in the United States Air Force.