

Senior High School and continued his education at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) and the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science.

Please join me in honoring Minister Gary Range for his commitment, dedication and service to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DONALD "DON" KENT

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life and legacy of my dear friend Donald "Don" Kent, a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, Marine, entrepreneur, artist, and faithful servant whose life reflected the values of faith, family, and service.

Born in Norfolk, Virginia, Don lived a life defined by integrity and hard work. He proudly served our Nation in the United States Marine Corps, where he developed the discipline and resilience that guided him throughout his life. Following his military service, he attended the University of Maryland before embarking on a successful career as an entrepreneur.

Don also dedicated 25 years to his passion for art. Alongside his beloved wife, Jo Ann, he traveled the country sharing his artwork and touching countless lives through his creativity, warmth, and kindness. I am proud to have his paintings hanging in my home and office, daily reminders of his talent and of our friendship. Known for his quick wit and generous spirit, Don lived out his faith through humility, compassion, and service to others.

Our families grew close through our sons, who have been best friends for years, and I came to know Don not only as a talented artist but as a man of remarkable warmth and character. His friendship was a gift to me and my family, and his loss is felt deeply.

Don Kent's legacy of service, generosity, and unwavering love will live on through his family, friends, and all who were blessed to know him. I extend my deepest condolences to his loved ones as they honor his remarkable life.

HONORING THE LOUDOUN NATURE CONSERVATION PROJECT

HON. SUHAS SUBRAMANYAM

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding community organization in Virginia's 10th Congressional District, the Loudoun Nature Conservation Project (LNCP). The LNCP was founded and is led by students in our community. Its mission is to protect and clean up the local environment, as well as engage in education and advocacy efforts. Since its inception in 2024, the LNCP has grown to over 270 active members, who have partnered with 17 parks and schools, and restored more than 3,100 acres of local land.

In addition to doing hands-on volunteer restoration work throughout Loudoun County, the

LNCP is dedicated to exploring how our local environment has been changed overtime. For example, the LNCP has published three research studies on local water quality changes in Loudoun County, including in the Potomac River basin.

It is very inspiring to see the dedication and time the LNCP has put into building a community passionate about preserving our nature. As a dad of two young girls, I want to make sure that future generations can continue to enjoy the great outdoors. I am grateful to LNCP for inspiring young people to care about the environment and thank them for all the hard work they do.

RECOGNIZING MR. CLIFFORD CHESSON

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District, of the great state of Florida, I rise today to recognize and honor Mr. Clifford Chesson a longtime Miami Dade County Public Schools Employee. I include in the RECORD the following proclamation in his honor:

Whereas, Mr. Chesson was an employee of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools security team for many years;

Whereas, Mr. Chesson was a strong advocate for the safety and well-being of Miami-Dade Public Schools' students, faculty and staff, administrators, school board members, employees, volunteers and vendor;

Whereas, Mr. Chesson performed his duties with dedication, passion and integrity;

Whereas, Mr. Chesson stood up for what he believed in and answered the call to serve our country in 1978, by joining the United States Army, where he served 20 years, and another five years in Army Reserve;

Whereas, Mr. Chesson dedicated his life to public service and offered inspiration to many;

Whereas, Mr. Chesson was a man of strong faith in God, a dedicated husband to his wife Barbara, and daughters Camille, Shanika Chesson-Ivy and Frederica Parks; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Frederica S. Wilson, a member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, recognize and honor the late Mr. Clifford Chesson for his commitment to his family, our community and our country.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF SERGEANT JAMES DAWSON

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Sergeant James Dawson, a proud World War II veteran whose courage, selflessness, and devotion to our Nation exemplified the highest ideals of American service.

Born in Higgins, Texas, on March 21, 1921, Sergeant James Dawson answered the call to serve during World War II with unwavering dedication. His extraordinary bravery earned him the World War II Victory Medal after he

courageously saved the lives of two fellow servicemembers, placing their safety above his own in the face of grave danger. Sergeant James Dawson embodied what it means to be an American. Through his sacrifice, courage, and steadfast commitment to others, he demonstrated the values that have long defined our Nation's Greatest Generation. His actions serve as a lasting reminder of the selfless service and heroism displayed by so many who fought to preserve the freedoms we enjoy today.

On behalf of the 31st Congressional District of Texas, I extend my deepest gratitude for Sergeant James Dawson's faithful service to our country and honor the remarkable life he lived. May his legacy of courage, patriotism, and sacrifice continue to inspire generations to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHARLIE DICKINSON

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Charlie Dickinson, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, friend, and Vietnam War veteran.

Mr. Dickinson was born in Lebanon, Missouri, in 1950, but at age thirteen, he moved to his family's dairy farm in Hartville. Shortly after he graduated high school in 1968, he was drafted into the United States Army where he served as a paratrooper in the 101st Airborne Division in the Vietnam War. Following his service, he returned to Lebanon where he worked at Lowe Boats until his retirement.

Mr. Dickinson was a pillar in the Hartville community where he served as a member of the Elk Creek Baptist Church, an avid supporter of Hartville High School sports and academic programs, and an active member of numerous local organizations. He was also a proud third baseman for the community softball team which he joined in the 1970s.

Outside of his local community, Mr. Dickinson also dedicated much of his life to serving his fellow veterans through his involvement in organizations such as the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). He consistently advocated for veterans, helped them obtain their service benefits, and would often be found placing flags on hundreds of graves each year to honor the legacy of his fellow soldiers. He was a champion for veterans' rights in not only Jefferson City, but also in Washington, D.C., for which he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the VFW.

It is my privilege to recognize Mr. Dickinson, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his life and service to our state and country.

RECOGNIZING MR. JOHNNIE L. WILLIAMS, JR.

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida,

I rise today to recognize and honor Mr. Johnnie L. Williams, Jr., one of Miami's first Black business owners. I include in the RECORD the following proclamation in his honor:

Whereas, Mr. Johnnie L. Williams, Jr., served Miami-Dade County with integrity and commitment to protecting and serving its citizens for over 40 years;

Whereas, Mr. Williams was bound by his beliefs in equality, fairness and justice for African Americans, employees of Miami-Dade County, students and families. He generously gave and supported various charitable organizations, including little league teams in Opa locka, Miami Gardens and Liberty City;

Whereas, Mr. Williams worked tirelessly to "balance the scales of justice." and ensure the safety of our youth;

Whereas, Mr. Williams was one of the first Black business owners in Miami-Dade County, running an NFL Skycap and Porters business;

Whereas, Mr. Williams was a member and advocate of the Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce and served as the President of the Orange Ridge Corporation;

Whereas, Mr. Williams served in the United States Navy, and is a veteran of World War II; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Frederica S. Wilson, a member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, honor the life and accomplishments of Mr. Johnnie L. Williams, Jr.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LARRY DAVID HAMBY, SR.

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Larry David Hamby, Sr., a devoted husband, father, grandfather, businessman, and community leader whose life was defined by hard work, integrity, faith, and service.

Born in Austin, Texas, Larry was raised in humble circumstances that taught him the value of perseverance and determination. After leaving school to help support his family, he earned his Master's Plumbing License and built Hambone Plumbing and Hambone Sewer & Septic into respected businesses known throughout Central Texas for honest work and dependable service.

Larry believed that success was measured by how you treated people. I had the pleasure of knowing him through his involvement with the Rotary Club and through countless acts of generosity, he gave back to his community and earned a reputation as someone who never met a stranger. Whether helping a neighbor, mentoring a young tradesman, or sharing a story with someone he had just met, Larry made people feel welcome and valued.

Above all, Larry loved his family. Together with his wife, Barbara, he built a home centered on faith, love, and hard work. He taught his children and grandchildren to care for others and always be there for the people they love. A faithful member of St. Richard's Episcopal Church, Larry lived those values every day through his kindness and service to others.

Larry is survived by his beloved wife, Barbara; his twelve children; his brother, Jimmy Hamby; 36 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; and many other family members and friends.

Mr. Speaker, Larry David Hamby, Sr. lived a life that left his family, his community, and Central Texas better than he found them. It is my honor to recognize his life and extend my deepest condolences to all who knew and loved him.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ZELLA SALLEY BROWN

HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Zella Brown and to recognize her extraordinary contribution to civil rights and public education in Prince William County, Virginia.

In 1964, Mrs. Brown was one of the "Courageous Four," four Black educators who were sent with no warning and no public announcement to teach in schools that had previously been reserved for White students. Mrs. Brown was assigned to Loch Lomond Elementary School, where she carried the hopes of an entire community into unfamiliar rooms and unfamiliar faces, fully aware that her presence alone was an act of courage in a community still adjusting to change.

For decades afterward, her sacrifice went largely unrecognized outside the community she served. Mrs. Brown never sought credit or celebration for what she had done, remaining humble and quietly declining public honors, including the opportunity to have a school named after her. She chose instead to be what one admirer who knew her well called, "a leader from behind." It was only years later that Prince William County created an Unsung Hero Award in her honor: a lasting tribute to a woman whose quiet impact had shaped the county for generations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Zella Brown, a devoted educator, a civil rights pioneer, and a true American hero, and in extending our deepest condolences to her family, friends, and the entire Prince William County community.

COMMENDING MR. MATTHEW WILLIAMS, JR.

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to recognize and honor retired mail clerk, Mr. Matthew Williams, Jr., an ardent and honorable member of the United States Postal Service for 32 years, who began his career as a truck driver before rising through the ranks to become a mail clerk. I include in the RECORD the following proclamation in his honor:

Whereas, Mr. Williams has received numerous awards and accolades for his enthusiastic

performance during his tenure including perfect attendance, achieving over 1500 hours of sick leave, and a dedication to service award;

Whereas, Mr. Williams provided an invaluable service to his country as a member of the United States Army in both Vietnam and Korea achieving the rank of Sergeant before being honorably discharged in 1975;

Whereas, Mr. Williams' unwavering devotion to God has been evidenced by his ministry as Deacon, Assistant Superintendent of Sunday School, and Usher at Greater New Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church;

Whereas, Mr. Williams has been the loving and devoted husband of Sandra Williams for 37 years, father of Senior Master Chief Heerey C. Gaston, Jr., Tameka W. Jones, Monique W. Deggins, and Matthew B. Williams, III, and grandfather of nine grandchildren; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Frederica S. Wilson, a member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, commend Mr. Matthew Williams, Jr. for his years of commitment and faithful service to his country, his community, and his family.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JOSHUA BAER

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Joshua Baer, a visionary entrepreneur, mentor, and community leader whose contributions transformed Central Texas into a global center for innovation. His passing is a tremendous loss for his family, the technology community, and our Nation.

Born in Nashua, New Hampshire, Joshua earned degrees in Computer Science and Information and Decision Systems from Carnegie Mellon University, where he first demonstrated the entrepreneurial spirit that would define his career by co-authoring the technical standard that allows millions of people to unsubscribe from email lists with a single click. After moving to Austin in 1996, Joshua became a driving force behind the city's emergence as a global technology hub. In 2009, he founded Capital Factory, which grew into Texas' leading startup accelerator and the state's most active venture investor, supporting more than 1,000 companies, later opening a second site in Washington, D.C.—Station DC. He recognized the vital connection between innovation and national security, playing an instrumental role in bringing Army Futures Command to Austin and strengthening the partnership between the military and the technology community.

I had the privilege of knowing Joshua and witnessing firsthand his passion for advancing innovation in Texas. On his many trips to Washington, he often visited my Capitol Hill office, where he proudly delivered one of Capital Factory's iconic robots for my collection, showcasing the remarkable technology companies that call Texas home. I am grateful to have called Joshua a friend and to have borne witness to his genius. He tirelessly championed priorities I shared, above all, the advancement of technology for our Nation's defense. Those advancements safeguard us