

Thorne. I would like to speak about the two of them today.

We were in a convoy hauling supplies on the road to Khe Sanh. My unit, the 523rd Transportation Company, used 5-ton gun trucks mounted with .50 caliber machine guns in order to protect the convoys. These gun trucks were made with scrounged-up armor. You could take an armor plate, then a layer of sandbags, and then another set of iron plates to make them work. We had to do with what we had.

Richard Frazier was a gunner on a truck called Satan's Lil Angel. He was killed in action on February 20, 1971, during an ambush near the DMZ in South Vietnam.

Robert Thorne was a driver for a truck named Proud American. I was riding with Robert on March 3, 1971, when two B-40 rockets hit the truck.

Robert Thorne steered Proud American into a mountain bank rather than going over an embankment down to the river below. That saved all of us.

Unfortunately, Robert Thorne lost his life. He was 21. It was in this truck that I was wounded, and I lost my arm.

There are no words to describe the loss of those men. I strive every day to honor their memory and sacrifice, and to live my life as a testament to theirs.

I love this country, and I feel duty-bound to keep America free and prosperous. On this Memorial Day, we honor those who fought and died so that we can live in freedom.

We cannot forget the sacrifices of men like Robert and Richard. They saved my life and the lives of fellow soldiers. They are heroes, and their courage is an example to all of us.

□ 1045

HONORING THE LIFE OF
KONSTANTINOS "KOSTI"
KOSTIBAS

(Mr. KEATING of Massachusetts was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Konstantinos "Kosti" Kostibas.

Born on October 24, 1978, Kosti was a proud Texan who graduated with a bachelor of arts in international studies from Baylor University and a master of arts in international relationships from St. Mary's University.

After graduating from Baylor University in 2002 with the rank of second lieutenant, Kosti served in the United States Air Force as an intelligence officer until 2006. Kosti continued to serve our country throughout his career, working in cyber operations at the Department of Defense.

During his time with the U.S. Cyber Command, where he played a critical role in advancing our Nation's cybersecurity interests, Kosti was selected to serve as a legislative defense fellow for the 2023 Department of Air Force fellowship program.

My colleagues and I will forever be grateful for the years that he spent

with our office. Never failing to be the first person in the office every morning, Kosti not only brought his expertise in cybersecurity and intelligence matters but also his steadfast work ethic.

He also incorporated a wry wit and an unwavering commitment to improving the lives of all of those around him. He had the unique ability to easily connect with anyone he crossed paths with and make them instantly feel as though they were speaking to an old friend for life.

Sadly, we lost Kosti too soon at the age of 47 on April 22, 2026, after a hard-fought battle against glioblastoma.

Above all, Kosti was a devoted husband to his wife, Megan, and a proud father to his children, John and Samantha.

From his service in the United States Air Force and his years working for U.S. Cyber Command, to his time spent in Nebraska, Texas, and Maryland, Kosti will be deeply missed by all who had the good fortune of working with him and spending time with him over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Kosti Kostibas, and I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing his commitment to advancing the safety and security of our country, as well as the positive light he was in the lives of so many.

May his memory be a blessing.

RECOGNIZING BILL POPE

(Mr. CLINE of Virginia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary coach, mentor, and pillar of the Roanoke community, Bill Pope, upon his retirement from Northside High School.

For more than four decades as head coach and an incredible 46 years in total, Coach Pope has shaped generations of young men both on and off the basketball court. Under his leadership, the Northside Vikings achieved 680 wins, one of the highest totals in Virginia High School League history.

His teams captured 17 district championships, 8 regional titles, and 3 State championships, including remarkable recent titles in 2019, 2023, and 2024. These achievements speak not only to his excellence as a coach but to his consistency, discipline, and enduring commitment to his players.

In recognition of his lasting impact, the school fittingly named its gymnasium in his honor, a testament to the legacy he has built and the lives he has touched.

As he steps away from the game, we thank Coach Pope for his service, his leadership, and his unwavering dedication to his community. May his legacy continue to inspire future generations of student-athletes.

RECOGNIZING CLARKE COUNTY GIRLS'
BASKETBALL TEAM

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary group of

young women from Clarke County, whose teamwork and determination led them to victory in the Virginia High School League Class 2 State championship.

The Clarke County girls' basketball team defeated Union 67-55 at VCU's Siegel Center and earned their second State title in four seasons and the third in program history.

This 27-2 team was powered by the talent and unity of all of their players. Five players earned All-Bull Run District honors; and standout senior Alainah McKavish, the Class 2 Player of the Year, capped her career with over 2,200 points and a powerful performance in the title game. Teammates Anna Taylor, Paige McKavish, Savannah McCaw, Kendall Harman, Haley Foltz, Eryn Demko, Emmerson Kennedy, and Paige Stemberger also rose to the challenge.

Coach Shadd McCaw guided the team to a nearly flawless season, which earned him the Class 2 Coach of the Year honors from the VHSL and Basketball Coaches Association of Virginia.

Please join me in congratulating the Clarke County Eagles on their hard work, resilience, and success.

RECOGNIZING JOHN HANDLEY BOYS'
BASKETBALL TEAM

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the John Handley High School boys' basketball team on capturing the program's first State championship.

Located in the city of Winchester and led by Head Coach Zach Harrell-Zook, along with Assistant Coaches Jason Combs, Trey Brisco, Donald Finley, Taralle Hayden, and Michael Brown, Hanley defeated Hampton in the Virginia High School League Class 4 championship game.

The team earned not only the program's first State title but also the school's 50th State championship overall.

Christian Dinges led the way and was recognized as the Class 4 State Player of the Year, with full support from teammates: Isaiah Baxter, Will Braunduin, Jaevon Brisco, Kyren Oglesby, Amari Brown, Silas Miller, Joaquin Pearce-Gonzales, Timothy Campbell, Asher Mattison, Aaron DeChristopher, Keon Ulmer, and ZeQuon Williams.

Coach Harrell-Zook was also recognized as the Class 4 State Coach of the Year.

I proudly commend this team for not only winning a State title but for making history in Handley's 103-year legacy.

I congratulate the Judges.

HONORING CHELSEA DOLINAR-
HIKAWA

(Ms. PRESSLEY of Massachusetts was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my dear friend, Chelsea Dolinar-Hikawa.

Chelsea and I grew up together in Chicago and attended Francis W. Parker School. She was my classmate and friend for 14 years.

I admired Chelsea's effortless brilliance, basked in her artistic talents and her infectious laugh, and was most of all inspired by her kindness.

Given her artistic talents, it was a surprise to no one that Chelsea became an artist, her love for music filling every corner of her life. She carried her vibrant passion for performance, travel, and the arts through every chapter of her life.

I rise today for her beautiful family, Nick, Atreyu, Anoki, and Suniya. I also rise today for her many beloved family members and friends who are spread as far and wide as her devotion to them. Her love for each of them is eternal.

Wherever Chelsea went, joy followed. She was melody, music, and magic. She lit up every room she entered with an unparalleled warmth and beauty.

It is with a heavy but grateful heart that I remember my beautiful childhood friend. Our senior class song by Simple Minds was "Don't You Forget About Me."

We sure won't, Chelsea. How could we ever?

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF BROTHER
ANDREW JOSEPH, JR.

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Brother Andrew Joseph, Jr., a father, husband, advocate, and a good man.

We first met several years ago at a protest demanding an end to police violence. He, alongside his wife and partner of 28 years, Deanna Joseph, had experienced unspeakable heartbreak when their 14-year-old son, Andrew Joseph III, was killed as a result of police misconduct.

Mr. Joseph turned his pain into purpose and committed to organizing with Black Lives Matter Grassroots for justice at the local, State, and Federal level, including advocating for the passage of my legislation, the Ending Qualified Immunity Act, to hold law enforcement accountable when they violate our rights.

Our collective fight for justice was strengthened by Mr. Joseph, and he will always be remembered for his dedication to uplifting community.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Joseph is survived by his daughter Deja, who recently graduated from Howard University with honors earlier this month.

On behalf of myself, my family, and my team, I extend our deepest condolences.

"Amen"; "Ashe."

HONORING LIFE AND LEGACY OF
HAL WARNER

(Mr. MACKENZIE of Pennsylvania was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MACKENZIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Hal Warner, President and CEO of the

Lehigh Valley Humane Society, and to recognize his years of dedicated service to our community.

Hal devoted his career to strengthening organizations that served others all across the Lehigh Valley. He helped advance the Lehigh Valley Humane Society's mission of animal rescue, rehabilitation, adoption, and community outreach, improving the lives of both animals and families throughout our region. His leadership reflected a deep commitment to compassion, service, and building stronger communities.

Beyond his work at the Humane Society, Hal spent years serving non-profit organizations focused on helping vulnerable populations and creating opportunities for others. Whether supporting families, strengthening community programs, or leading mission-driven organizations, he made a lasting impact on countless lives.

Hal was deeply loved by his colleagues, staff, volunteers, and all those who knew him.

We extend our deepest condolences to Hal's family, friends, and everyone at the Lehigh Valley Humane Society as they continue his work and honor his legacy.

RECOGNIZING STEPHEN SCHLEIG

Mr. MACKENZIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Officer Stephen Schleig of the Easton Area School District for receiving the 2026 National Association of School Resource Officers Bridge the Gap Award.

This prestigious national recognition honors school police professionals who demonstrate exceptional leadership, mentorship, professionalism, and dedication to students and their communities.

Officer Schleig was specifically recognized for his commitment to supporting at-risk youth and helping to build positive relationships that strengthen school communities.

As a graduate of the Easton Area School District, Officer Schleig now serves in the same schools that helped to shape his own life. Through initiatives focused on school mentorship, outreach, and community engagement, he has worked to strengthen the bond between schools, families, and law enforcement.

His commitment to service extends beyond the classroom and reflects the important role that mentorship and compassion play in keeping students safe and supported.

I congratulate Officer Schleig on this well-deserved national honor and thank him for his continued dedication to students, families, and the Easton community.

RECOGNIZING SUE BUTZ-STAVIN

Mr. MACKENZIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Coach Sue Butz-Stavin of Emmaus High School as she celebrates 50 years of extraordinary leadership and excellence in field hockey.

For five decades, she has helped to shape generations of student-athletes both on and off the field. As the

winningest high school field hockey coach in the entire nation, her teams have earned district and State championships, set records, and built one of the most successful programs in scholastic sports.

But numbers alone do not tell the whole story. Her impact can be measured through the countless young women she has mentored, encouraged, and helped prepare for success in athletics, academics, and life.

For 50 years, Coach Butz-Stavin has embodied the values of dedication, perseverance, and leadership. Her influence has extended far beyond the pitch and left a lasting mark on Emmaus and communities around the Lehigh Valley.

I congratulate Coach Butz-Stavin on this incredible milestone and thank her for the lives that she has changed through her commitment to her athletes.

□ 1100

RECOGNIZING OFFICER HUNTER STOM

Mr. MACKENZIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Officer Hunter Stom of the Bethlehem Police Department for his commitment to protecting members of our community.

While off duty at a local gas station, Officer Stom noticed an elderly woman who appeared distressed while speaking on the phone near a bitcoin machine. Trusting his instincts and recognizing signs of a potential cryptocurrency scam, he stepped in to check on her well-being.

Thanks to his quick thinking, Officer Stom was able to stop the victim from sending additional money to scammers and helped prevent further financial loss. He then ensured that the incident was properly documented and that the individual received assistance.

Officer Stom's actions serve as a reminder that protecting and serving is more than a profession. It is a commitment that extends far beyond the badge and beyond the call of duty. As a member of the bipartisan Stop Scams Caucus, I know how important it is to raise awareness and protect our communities from increasingly sophisticated scams that target vulnerable individuals.

I commend Officer Stom for his dedication to keeping the people of the Lehigh Valley and Poconos safe.

HONORING DANIEL G. WUCHTER

Mr. MACKENZIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Daniel G. Wuchter, Sr. He is a lifetime entrepreneur, community leader, and the owner of the Allentown Fairgrounds Farmer's Market.

CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE
MONTH

(Ms. PLASKETT of the Virgin Islands was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Caribbean American Heritage Month, a month of