

A native of Pearl City, Hawaii, Major Briones was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Signal Corps from Officer Candidate School in 2006. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Public Policy from The George Washington University (GWU), a Master's degree in IT Management from Webster University, and a Master's degree in Legislative Affairs from GWU.

Major Briones has served in a broad range of assignments during his 12 years as an Army officer, including Platoon Leader and Battalion Signal Officer at Fort Lewis, WA; Company Commander at Schofield Barracks, HI; and Legislative Liaison in Washington, D.C. He also has served two combat deployments in Iraq with the 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division.

I have had the privilege of working directly with Major Briones, first as a fellow in my Capitol Hill office throughout 2016 and, then, during his succeeding assignment as a Congressional Budget Liaison for the U.S. Army. His professionalism, performance, and commitment to the mission, as both a fellow and liaison, are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and made a lasting impression to both Members and staff of the United States Congress. Throughout his career, Major Briones has positively impacted soldiers, peers, and superiors.

On a personal level, I have had the honor of also meeting Major Briones' family, who, as with all American military families, share his selfless commitment to our country. I thank his wife, Ilana, as well as his parents, Daniel and Roberta, for their sacrifices made in supporting his service to our country.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a genuine pleasure to have worked with Major Shane Briones since the second session of the 114th Congress. Our country has benefited from his extraordinary leadership, judgment, and passion for the Army profession. It is with great appreciation that I recognize and commend Major Briones for his service to our country and wish him all the best as he continues his service in the United States Army.

#### HONORING PATTI COONS

#### HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Patti Coons for her contribution to our state.

Patti is an institution in Indiana politics and has been helping promote Republican principles for decades. She is a retired senior executive for the Decorating Den Interiors franchise. It has been a pleasure to work with Patti, and our state is better off today because of her extraordinary leadership and service. I

On a personal note, Patti is among my favorite people who I have met on this journey in Congress. She is smart, strong, honest and loyal. With Patti, you always know where you stand. She is a great friend to my wife Jennifer, and we both appreciate all that Patti has done to help Jennifer with the Congressional Club.

I will be forever grateful for Patti's friendship and support of my work in Congress. I wish

her continued success in all that God has planned for her family.

#### TRIBUTE TO WILFRED R. DEFOUR, SR.

#### HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues' sad news that has struck my community with the passing of Wilfred R. DeFour, Sr. at the incredible age of 100.

Mr. DeFour was raised in Harlem; a proud alumnus of Dewitt Clinton High School in the Bronx; and later graduate of both the City College of New York and New York University School of Commerce.

Mr. DeFour was an aircraft technician working on many of the planes flown by the Tuskegee Airmen during World War II. In fact, Mr. DeFour painted the tails of aircraft red by hand that lent the airmen their signature moniker of "Red Tails".

He was a man of extraordinary dignity, the highest character and a great sense of humor. He personified the magnanimity of his generation that endured the division and animus of racial segregation in this country yet still fought for our country and its shared defense.

Just a few weeks ago in New York City, I had the enormous privilege with my fellow elected officials and community leaders to officially unveil the renaming of the Post Office located at 99 Macombs Place as the "Tuskegee Airmen Post Office Building." Mr. DeFour was our guest of honor and shared with us his experience and what his service meant to him. It is my intention to rename the Lincoln Post Office located at 2266 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10037, where he worked after returning from his military service for over three decades.

Just last month he said "I regret so many of my comrades are no longer here with us. It was a great experience. We didn't know that we were making history at the time, we were just doing our jobs. That's about the size of it."

For a man with a larger than life presence, what struck me and those around him was his humility and grace. He told us "After looking back at it, everyone was pleased with what we did. What we did, we did our best and our best was the greatest." We are lesser without him and can only hope to strive to match; but never exceed his example.

Godspeed Combat Technical Sergeant Wilfred R. DeFour, Sr. It was a pleasure to have known him.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE CHINESE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF SACRAMENTO'S ANNUAL GOLD MOUNTAIN CELEBRATION

#### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of The Chinese American Council of Sacramento's 31st Annual Gold Mountain

Celebration. Each year, the Council celebrates the efforts of selfless community members in fostering intercultural relationships, increasing awareness for the cultural significance of Chinese Americans and all Pacific Islander Americans. This is in addition to their invaluable support for projects and programs that address the economically challenged members of the community that are often forgotten.

This year's honorees are staples in our community. The Hall of Fame recipient is the Chan Family of General Produce. They are a business built on three generations of dedication to supplying the highest quality produce to the Sacramento community and beyond, in addition to providing 80 years of civic engagement.

Receiving Frank Fat's Founder Award is C.C. Yin, Founder of Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs. Originally created to empower leadership and representation for the Asian Pacific Islander Community, this organization has inspired community involvement nationwide through fellowship, mentorship and education.

The recipient of the Community Service Award is My Sister's House. The organization provides invaluable services and is a haven for Asian Pacific Islander American women who are suffering from domestic violence. Since they began in 2000, My Sister's House has provided resources and community to those seeking refuge from dangerous situations.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to this celebration as it recognizes pillars in the Sacramento community and to praise them for another successful year for the Chinese American Council of Sacramento. As unparalleled leaders, these individuals and organizations set an incredible example.

#### RECOGNIZING LADD PAULSON FOR THE 2018 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

#### HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ladd Paulson of Billings, a recipient of the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Paulson enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1983 and served two deployments in the South Pacific with the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines and 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines. He rose to the rank of Corporal through four years of active duty and two years as a reservist.

Mr. Paulson served the Billings community as a law enforcement officer. He was active in the domestic violence task force and instrumental in organizing local businesses to help in the prevention of domestic violence. He was awarded the Montana Law Enforcement Medal of Honor for his bravery under fire while apprehending an armed and dangerous criminal. Even after a service-connected injury forced him to retire in 2002, he remains active serving others through his advocacy for disabled law enforcement officers.

Mr. Paulson also volunteers his time in the Adopt-A-Cop program at area schools, as a

law enforcement liaison to the Montana Motorcycle Safety Advisory Council, and as a lunch-room aide at Arrowhead Elementary.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Ladd Paulson for his dedication and service.

## GUN VIOLENCE

### HON. ROBIN L. KELLY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because 2017 marked the greatest number of gun violence deaths in two decades.

Last year, we lost 39,773 Americans to gun violence—that's more than 109 people killed each and every day.

Despite these shocking and horrific statistics, despite the fact that more Americans are dying from gun violence, despite the fact that mothers are burying their children far too soon, this House—this Republican majority—has done nothing to stop the violence.

Mr. Speaker, you and your team's response to 39,773 dead Americans was to do nothing, zero, zilch?

Why? What is the root of your inaction?

Could it be the large numbers in those NRA checks that flood your campaign account and leadership PAC?

Could it be the more than 30 million dollars that the NRA spent to elect President Donald J. Trump?

Mr. Speaker, I have one question: why do those millions of dollars matter more than 39,773 American lives lost in one year?

Why does any amount of money matter more to you and your caucus than the life of an American?

Mr. Speaker, these are the names of more Americans that this Congress has failed—Americans killed or hurt by gun violence that has become an epidemic in our nation because of Republican inaction.

#### GUN VIOLENCE VICTIMS FROM TENNESSEE'S 8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1. Quincy Anderson, 24
2. Toby Bailey
3. Alonzo Scullark
4. Bruce Henderson
5. Christavian Toomes, 19
6. Isaiah McCrory, 18
7. Braxton Watkins, 20
8. Sheila Scott
9. Trell Travis Terry, 23
10. Ben Cole Birdwell
11. Jaylon Cohen, 17
12. Jessica Hunt, 27
13. Marcus Jones, 18
14. Marlon Anderson, 21
15. Jessica Jones, 29
16. Demarrio Borum
17. Nageab Alshaif
18. Kevin Minter, 26
19. Jeremy Williams, 25
20. Tevian Murrell, 22
21. Darius Vaughn, 16
22. Daithan Cobb, 20
23. Kentavious Wilson, 19
24. Salvador Byassee
25. Tyion Taylor
26. Marlin Wallace
27. Jerron Luke McAlister, 12
28. Dennis Edward Neisler, 26
29. Troy "Tuman" Whitmore, 19
30. Deairrious Young, 20

31. Joshua Hadra, 22
32. Terry Edward Hill
33. Tychicus Randle
34. Jeffery Pickens
35. Kenneth Mahone, 29
36. Michael Jerod Harris, 21
37. Michael Morris
38. Lucinda Luna, 19
39. Andrew Deaundrey Curtis-Terry, 20
40. Charles Graves
41. Betsy Raines
42. Nancy Lewellyn
43. Rodney James Hess
44. Jarvis Miller, 27
45. Velma Paulette Garrett
46. Christopher Armstrong
47. William Vinson, 27
48. Tim Edwards
49. Jimmy Lee Lawson
50. Don Fitzgerald White
51. Shanice Amerson
52. Rontavious M. McKinley, 22
53. Desmond Travis, 23
54. Angela Pigue
55. Special Agent De'Greaun Frazier
56. Stephanie Boyd
57. William Boyd
58. Elia Hernandez, 17
59. Arric Lamont Ford, 22
60. Ronald Branch, 28
61. Peyton Gates
62. Gregory Robinson, 27
63. Mondarrius Miller
64. Jack S. Jetton
65. Clarence Evans, 20
66. Charles Kerr, 29
67. Tony Willoughby, 25
68. Samuel Johnson, Jr., 25
69. Michael Joseph Bartkiewicz
70. Mikkel Joy, 26
71. Ernest Emerson
72. Colton Tilley, 22
73. Sontonio Brown, 25
74. Jacky Ford
75. Crystal Shad Herbert-Weathers
76. Karri Baker
77. Beau Reid, 29
78. Alexandra Bevis, 27
79. Virginia Dorris
80. David Laster
81. Ladarius Brooks
82. Matthew D. Belk, 27
83. Jennifer Herren
84. Harvey Gandy
85. James Roberson, 25
86. Ralph Faudree
87. Corey Williams
88. Cleate Andrew Davis
89. Willie Claybrook
90. A'Darius Flagg, 17
91. Tereon Taylor, 23
92. Officer Raymond Bond
93. Anastasia "Ana" Randall, 4
94. Donna Green
95. Dillon C. McGee, 18
96. Johnnie Patricia Alston
97. Torhonda Cathey
98. Jarvis Antawn Hines, 23
99. Jodarius McNuckles, 18
100. Shomari Peterson, Jr., 17
101. Justin Williams, 20
102. Justin Neil Davis, 24
103. Jeffrey Nelson
104. Jamar Rogers, 24
105. Gary Morris, 24
106. Aljernon Lloyd Jr
107. Marcus A. Coleman, 27
108. Olivia Greenlee, 21
109. Houston Dewayne Brown, 26
110. Markel Owens, 21
111. Johnny Shivers, 36
112. Laura Ann Rains, 26

#### GUN VIOLENCE VICTIMS FROM GEORGIA'S 6TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

113. Zachary Chambless, 17
114. Amber Marie Holliman
115. Patrick Nolan

116. Shurki Ali Said
117. Jason Lappe
118. Talathia Brooks
119. Elijah Smith
120. Clarence "Alex" Maddox
121. Elizabeth Reissiger
122. Ruth Reissiger
123. Kobe Williams, 17
124. Antuan McClain
125. Andrew Spencer
126. Cierra Ford, 25
127. Anthony Welch
128. Esmond Ford, 25
129. Luz Mariana Matheu
130. Natalie Henderson, 17
131. Carter Davis, 17
132. Howard L. Sewell
133. Cin Lam Mung
134. Sean Michael Turner, 17
135. Andres Arias, 16
136. Jhavares Doster, 20
137. Ja'Ron Acklin, 24
138. Ricardo Hernandez Ovalle, 22
139. Nena Harris
140. Robert Allen Harris
141. Antonio Bernabe
142. Doris Beardsley
143. Anthony Hill, 27
144. Donovan Thomas, 26
145. Jonas Douze Sr.
146. Daniel John Zeitz, 28
147. Sharon Wilkins
148. Dan Wilkins
149. Paul Anthony Santos
150. Justin Acevedo, 22
151. Takeenan Williams, 23
152. Armando Lopez Perez
153. Montavious Washington, 18
154. Daryus Johnson, 19
155. Darius Bottoms, 18
156. Nicholas Abry, 20
157. Spencer Long, 20
158. Michael Verucci, 30

#### GUN VIOLENCE VICTIMS FROM MISSOURI'S 2ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

159. Crystal Chrisp
160. Alexander Marley, 29
161. Thomas Hearst Jr.
162. Leroy D. Allen
163. Linda Cook
164. Johnny Cook
165. Michelle Moore
166. Michael Moore
167. Ramone Thomas, 26
168. Joshua Lanflisi
169. Jerrod Kershaw, 30
170. Shamarcus McCullough, 20
171. Clifton Knickmeyer
172. Kenna Daly
173. Christopher Daly
174. Jose Dominguez, 27
175. Owen Cadenbach, 4
176. Ethan Cadenbach, 5
177. Christopher Cadenbach, 43
178. Officer Blake Curtis Snyder
179. Rebecca Comer Kelleher
180. Carole Comer
181. John M. Comer
182. Thomas Patrick Comer
183. Roy Scott Baker
184. Irma Hipp
185. Jose Garcia, 26
186. Xzavier "Zae" Robinson, 3
187. Jacob Hohman
188. Larry Montgomery, 21
189. Marcus Hurst, 23
190. Alexis Church, 6
191. Colleen Church
192. Terry Tobey
193. Eric Meyer
194. Melissa McCart, 27
195. Ned R. Booker, 28
196. Omar Britt
197. Nickolas T. Gralike, 24
198. James Roesslein
199. Patsy Roesslein
200. Jacquelyn N. Adams, 22