

A fifth generation descendant of a Central Texas ranching family, William Carroll "Wiggie" Shell was born March 1, 1957 in Georgetown, Texas. His family has long been committed to his beloved home town. During the early 1950s to 1968, Wiggie's father owned and operated the only public swimming pool in Georgetown known as "The Shell Pool" which was a favorite place where young and old spent many of their summer hours.

Wiggie graduated from Georgetown High School in 1975. A true child of Texas, Wiggie was a rodeo bull rider in his youth and used that knowledge to wrangle Donna, his wife and love of his life, marrying in 1977. They have two children and three grandchildren.

Wiggie started his railroad career as a carman at Georgetown Railroad Company, worked his way up to Chief Mechanical Officer, spending 20 years with the railroad. Wiggie then started at a supplier company called Georgetown Rail Equipment Company (GREX) in the Operations department and worked his way up to President and CEO. Under his leadership, GREX doubled in size and revenue in just three years. Wiggie made GREX into an industry leader by pioneering high-technology solutions for thorny long-standing railroad problems. Under his direction, the company is now moving into international markets. His work as an innovator led to Wiggie being a respected railroad industry support spokesperson in Washington, DC and Austin, TX.

Wiggie's contributions don't stop when the work day ends. He served in the Georgetown Volunteer Fire Department for 28 years and volunteers with Sky Ball, the premier fundraising event for the Airpower Foundation, one of the oldest military support organizations in the U.S. When he's not working or volunteering, Wiggie relishes his family time, whether enjoying NASCAR races or fishing with his grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I join Wiggie's friends, family, and colleagues in wishing him a happy 60th birthday. His has been a life of innovation and service. With Wiggie, the best is yet to come and I wish him nothing but success in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MICHAEL E. WILLIAMSON

HON. MARTHA MCSALLY

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2017

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant General Michael E. Williamson, United States Army, for his selfless service to our nation, culminating in his assignment as the Principal Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology and Director of Acquisition Career Management. Lieutenant General Williamson will retire from active military duty this year after 34 years of service.

Born in Tucson, Arizona, Lieutenant General Williamson was commissioned at the University of Maine as a Second Lieutenant in the Air Defense Artillery in 1983. His assignments included company grade assignments in Germany and command in the 11th Brigade at Fort Bliss, Texas, and the 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade at Fort Hood, Texas.

Throughout his career, Lieutenant General Williamson has grown as a skilled practitioner, respected leader, and mentor within the Army acquisition workforce. He served with distinction as Senior Military Software Analyst at NATO's military headquarters in Belgium; Chief of Information Technology, Acquisition Career Management; Product Manager for the Global Command and Control System-Army; Military Assistant to the Secretary of the Army; Project Manager for Future Combat Systems Network Systems Integration; Director of Systems Integration; Deputy Program Executive Officer, Integration; Joint Program Executive Officer for the Joint Tactical Radio Systems; and Assistant Deputy for Acquisition and Systems Management. Lieutenant General Williamson will complete his career as Principal Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology and Director of Acquisition Career Management as the most senior military officer within the Army Acquisition Corps where he tirelessly advocated for equipment modernization and ensured that our Soldiers have the best equipment available.

In addition to his extensive acquisition experience, Lieutenant General Williamson served in the Congressional Fellowship program as a Military Legislative Assistant to former Representative Silvestre Reyes of Texas' 16th District. He also served as the Deputy Commanding General for the Combined Security Transition Command—Afghanistan during OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM from 2013 to 2014.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the remarkable career of Lieutenant General Michael E. Williamson and congratulate him as he enters the next chapter of his life. I wish Michael, his loving wife, Tracy, and their beloved daughter, Darcy, the very best as they embark on their new journey together.

TRIBUTE TO BRIAN WALLER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Brian Waller for being named a 2017 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2017 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 680 past business leaders and growing.

Brian is president of the Technology Association of Iowa, where his many accomplishments include rebranding the organization, creating strategic partnerships across the state and launching an Iowa Technology Summit for the fall of 2017. With a passion for his home state, he co-founded a web application to identify Iowa expats around the world called

The Iowan Project. He and his wife, Dr. Callie Waller, have a daughter, Parker, a son, Asher, and a border collie named Mr. Jenkins. In his free time, you can find Brian on the golf course or making music.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Brian in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize him today for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Brian on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2017 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

CONDEMNING THE ATTACKS ON ARMENIANS IN SUMGAIT, KIROVABAD, AND BAKU

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2017

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, we have reached the 29th anniversary of a dark chapter in modern history. During the Nagorno-Karabakh War of 1988 to 1994, Armenian civilians were indiscriminately attacked in the city of Sumgait. Today, I condemn these pogroms and commemorate the victims.

On the evening of February 27, 1988, a three-day rampage against Armenian civilians living in Sumgait, Soviet Azerbaijan began. Armenian civilians were hunted down and brutally assaulted. There were cases of rape, murder, and maiming of Armenian civilians.

The Soviet Union prohibited journalists from entering the area. It was reported that over 30 people were murdered and over 200 injured. However, it is believed that more, perhaps hundreds, were murdered by roving mobs.

Sadly, the Sumgait pogrom was only the beginning.

Despite international condemnation of the pogrom in Sumgait, another anti-Armenian pogrom occurred later that year in Kirovabad, Azerbaijan, from November 21st to 27th. Due to the brutality, the Armenians of Kirovabad and the surrounding areas were forced to flee their homes. Another crime against humanity occurred from January 13th to the 19th, in 1990. Members of the Armenian community of Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan, were assaulted, tortured and killed by violent mobs.

I would like to commemorate the Armenian victims of the Sumgait, Kirovabad, and Baku massacres, to honor the memory of the murdered, and to stop future bloodshed. If we hope to stop future massacres, we must acknowledge these horrific events and ensure they do not happen again.

We must urge Azerbaijan to cease all threats and acts of coercion against the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh. We should actively monitor and condemn Azerbaijan's violations of the ceasefire in Nagorno Karabakh.

Lastly, we must reaffirm America's commitment to an enduring, peaceful and democratic resolution of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict that includes the Nagorno Karabakh Republic as a party to negotiations.