

The American citizens who live in the nation's capital will forever remember Ron Dellums, prescient warrior for equality and freedom—and well ahead of his time—a leader for statehood for the District of Columbia.

# INTRODUCTION OF THE FILIPINO VETERANS FAMILY REUNIFICATION ACT OF 2019

## HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 2019*

Mr. CASE. Madam Speaker, today, with my colleague, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, I rise to introduce the Filipino Veterans Family Reunification Act. I also welcome the companion version of this bill introduced today in the U.S. Senate by Senator HIRONO of Hawai'i and Senator MURKOWSKI of Alaska.

This bipartisan, bicameral legislation would exempt immigrant visa applications of children of Filipino World War II veterans from existing caps and allow them to gain green cards on processing and approval of their applications, which are still carefully vetted in line with existing immigration standards. This bill will not only assist these veterans in their senior years but also provide a fitting recognition of their critical service in the War.

In 1941, more than 250,000 Filipino soldiers responded to President Roosevelt's call-to-arms in the Philippines and elsewhere and fought for the U.S. during World War II. Many of these brave individuals returned from the War only to be denied many of the benefits promised for their service, and they have spent decades fighting recognition of their service. Many such veterans became proud U.S. citizens, though today there are only a few thousand Filipino veterans still alive and living in the U.S.

In October 2017, Congress finally awarded the Filipino veterans of World War II the Congressional Gold Medal to honor their service to our country, but we must do more as we promised. These Filipino American veterans long sought to gain entry and citizenship for their children, yet our immigrant visa backlog has forced family members to wait up to decades and thus effectively prevented these aging veterans from reuniting with their families.

In 2016, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services created the Filipino World War II Veterans Parole Program, a temporary administrative fix that allows these veterans to request parole for their children or siblings. Under this policy, they can live in the U.S. pending processing of their permanent resident applications, which may still take years if not decades. However, as these veterans near the end of their lives, they deserve the certainty of a non-revocable permanent solution. This bill would grant them that.

In this Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and in further recognition of the selfless service and contributions of Filipino veterans of World War II to our country, I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting and passing this bill.

# REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JIMMIE "JW" ALESHIRE

## HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 2019*

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jimmie "JW" Aleshire, age 73, who passed away on Thursday, November 1, 2018.

Jimmie was a proud veteran, serving his country in the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne Infantry. He was also a devout man of faith and was a member of St. Mary's Church in Mineral Ridge, Ohio. Prior to retirement in 2011, Jimmie worked as a steel worker for RMI for 38 years, and was a former 6S coordinator and continuous improvement facilitator at RTI International Metals, Inc.

Jimmie was also a fighter in more ways than one. He was a 36-year melanoma cancer survivor, volunteered his time with the Niles' Relay for Life, and served on the Board of Directors of Yellow Brick Place. He was also a great union man, a part of Local No. 2155, and served on school committees for both St. Rose and John F. Kennedy Warren Schools.

A family man, Jimmie was a beloved grandfather and coach. He was a track coach at St. Rose and a softball coach for JFK and Seaborn Elementary, while being instrumental in developing the ball fields at JFK Warren.

Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Joyce (Veltre) Aleshire, whom he married October 22, 1966; his children, Alise (Jason) Kent of Warren, Christian M. Aleshire of Alliance, and Justin (Crystal) Aleshire of Mineral Ridge; his grandchildren, Isabella and Michael Kent, Ryan, Noah, and Lucas Aleshire; his granddog, Furious, and many nieces.

Jimmie was a great friend of mine and was a one of my earliest supporters. He knew better than most the power of collective action to improve the lives of working-class people. Jimmie will be missed.

# HONORING THE LEGACY OF CAVEY'S

## HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 2019*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Cavey's a restaurant located in Manchester, Connecticut.

Cavey's has been a mainstay on Connecticut's restaurant scene since it opened in 1933, during the Great Depression.

For 85 years the Cavagnaro family has created a welcoming environment with delicious food and great friendship.

As a frequent visitor of Cavey's, Steve Cavagnaro, the current owner and chef, and his wife Kate, have become dear friends. His grandmother, Florence, originally opened the restaurant, and Steve has continued to serve her famous ravioli.

Over the years, the Cavagnaro family has created a Manchester institution, where I met a cast of characters, starting with Steve's father, Stephen Cavagnaro Senior, and ranging from people like Raymond F. "Sonny"

Damato, Jack DeQuatro, Bill and Steve Thornton, Neil and Elizabeth Ellis, Chris Powell, and Bob Marcotte, who coined the phrase, and preferred to be called a social chemist, not a bartender.

Steve is the quintessential gentleman, erudite and gracious. His humility underscores the fact he is simplistically, as he's said, not a man of many words, but he speaks the language of good food and wine.

To say Cavey's will be missed after it closes on May 24th, is an understatement. We wish Steve, Kate, and the entire Cavey's family well wishes as they start this new chapter and thank them for being the hearth where the community could gather and know there was always good food, good wine, and good fellowship.

# RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF JOEL JEAN COURREGES, SR.

## HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 2019*

Mr. KILMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Joel Jean Courreges, Sr., a decorated veteran and Kitsap County community member, who passed away on May 10, 2019.

Joel was born in France on March 15, 1950. He attended Roosevelt High School in Seattle and immediately enlisted in the Marines after graduation. Through his decorated career of military service, Joel attained the rank of Sergeant and served two tours as a mortarman in Phu Bai and Danang, where he was wounded. Returning home from Vietnam, he married Kandace K. Hove and had two children, Joel Jr. and Danielle. In 1973, he met his current wife, Carol, and they were married, expanding his family to include Deanna and Tami.

After his time in the military, Joel continued to seek ways to serve his community and contribute to its growth and vitality. He spent thirty-six years as a truck operator before retiring in 2006. Not long after his retirement, Joel became a service officer for the Bremerton chapter of Disabled American Veterans, eventually taking on the role of Commander.

Through his work with Disabled American Veterans, Joel served his community diligently by outreaching, connecting, and supporting veterans across Kitsap County. His work earned praise and numerous accolades during his tenure, including a Golden Tennis Shoe award from Senator PATTY MURRAY.

In addition to his work with Disabled American Veterans, Joel also served on the Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board, helping shape the County's efforts in supporting its many veterans who call our region home.

Madam Speaker, Joel set an example for all of us who strive to serve and better our communities. Even in the face of increasing health hardship, Joel maintained a steadfast commitment to working on behalf of veterans and we are better off because of his great work.

I am honored to recognize Joel Jean Courreges, Sr.'s great life and legacy of service and send my very best to his family, friends, and the staff of the Bremerton chapter of Disabled American Veterans.