

RECOGNIZING SPECIALIST PAUL HUFF, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2019 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 23, 2019*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor twelve distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipients of the 2019 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the time-honored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation. Their stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Specialist Paul Huff of McKinney, Texas.

Paul Huff entered the United States Army in 1962 and was assigned to the 5th Missile Battalion, 517th Artillery Division in Abilene, Texas following his completion of basic training. Following his promotion to Fire Control Specialist, Paul was assigned to the United States Army Signal School and later served under the United States Army Intelligence Training Center in Fort Ritchie, Maryland. Mr. Huff was promoted to a Specialist E-6 rank and was assigned with the Signal Corps in Vietnam and Thailand. In 1967, Paul returned home to his wife and children. For his service, Specialist Huff was awarded the National Defense Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with 1 Bronze Star, and Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with the Palm Unit Citation Badge.

Upon reentering civilian life, Paul worked in the computer and data processing field before later retiring. Since that time, Paul has dedicated his life to assisting veterans and furthering the cause of those who have worn the uniform as evidenced by his role as President of the Collin County Vietnam Veterans of America (Chapter 1122), and active membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars (Allen Post 2195), American Legion (Bill Bryan Post 110), and the Association of the United States Army (Audie Murphy Chapter).

In his role as Treasurer for the Disabled American Veterans (McKinney Chapter 38), Paul also serves as a certified DAV Chapter Service Advisor where he has assisted many veterans obtain Compensation and Pension benefits from the Veterans Benefits Administration. Mr. Huff further demonstrates his ability to benefit the lives of those around him by giving selflessly of his time with the Veterans Center of North Texas, an all-volunteer organization that serves as a free resource center for veterans offering health, employment, housing, mental health and benefits assistance. Mr. Paul Huff has continuously found new ways to exhibit service before self to those within our community and deserves our unwavering gratitude for his many efforts.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Specialist Huff for his exceptional service and congratu-

lates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2019 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

IN RECOGNITION OF DETECTIVE SERGEANT JASON HOHNER

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 23, 2019*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Detective Sergeant Jason Hohner and congratulate him on receiving The Washtenaw 100 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award. Detective Sergeant Jason Hohner's selfless dedication to protecting the Washtenaw County community is worthy of commendation.

The Washtenaw 100 is a non-profit organization committed to supporting our hometown heroes. The organization's mission is to provide immediate financial funding to families of law enforcement and firefighting personnel in Washtenaw County who have died in the line of duty, helping them through their grief. In addition, the organization strives to serve active duty law enforcement officers and firefighters by providing grants to local departments and offering annual scholarships to their children to bolster their educational opportunities.

The Washtenaw 100's Annual Dinner exemplifies the organization's continued dedication to supporting our community's firefighters and law enforcement officers and serves as a great way to recognize their outstanding efforts. This year, The Washtenaw 100 is proud to recognize Detective Sergeant Jason Hohner as the 2019 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

Detective Sergeant Jason Hohner is an experienced and valuable member of the Pittsfield Police Department. Nominated by Chief Matthew Harshberger, Det. Sgt. Hohner is a leader who consistently goes above and beyond what is expected of him in his position. Although Det. Sgt. Hohner has a host of outstanding accomplishments that make him deserving of the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award, some of his most noteworthy achievements include his leadership in a recent homicide investigation that involved over 90 law enforcement personnel and his crucial coordination between the Pittsfield Police Department and a variety of other agencies to ensure crucial information was not left unnoticed. Det. Sgt. Hohner is known amongst his peers as a driven problem-solver who humbly strives for excellence without seeking praise or recognition for any of his remarkable accomplishments.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Detective Sergeant Jason Hohner. His bravery, dedication, and service to the citizens of Washtenaw County is deeply appreciated and truly makes a difference in our community.

HONORING MAHOMED AKBAR KHAN

**HON. J. LUIS CORREA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 23, 2019*

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mahomed Akbar Khan for his dedication to our youth and the Muslim community. With over 30 years of commitment to the people of Southern California, Mr. Khan has focused on conflict resolution, interfaith programs, humanitarian aid, and youth development.

In 1970, at age 9, Mr. Khan's family immigrated to the United States from South Africa during the apartheid. By the early 1990s, Mr. Khan co-founded over 25 Muslim student unions and campus organizations across the United States, including the Muslim Youth of North America (M.Y.N.A) which is the largest American Muslim youth organization today.

Mr. Khan's 30 years of experience in interfaith dialog and conflict resolution is exemplified by his notable accomplishments. As a student, he served as a Muslim Chaplain and provided impactful religious services to prison inmates. This service influenced many former gang leaders to return to their communities and devote their lives to gang intervention, easing tensions, and creating a peace movement on the streets.

Mr. Khan traveled to Israel as an ambassador of peace alongside Martin Luther King III, a "civil rights Rabbi," advocating for an end to violence. Mr. Khan sat on the Economic and Poverty Alleviation Advisory Board for Xhosa King Sandile, where he was heavily involved in alleviating poverty and building peace strategies throughout South Africa.

Currently, Mr. Khan continues to bring impact and attention to local and global issues. Mr. Khan brought national attention to the Rohingya humanitarian crisis when he helped to organize a hearing before the House Foreign Affairs Committee in Washington, D.C. in 2018. This hearing brought over \$130 million in emergency aid to the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh.

Today, we celebrate the many humanitarian efforts and accomplishments of Mahomed Akbar Khan. His has committed his life to serving his local and global community by continuing to advocate for tolerance, peace, and non-violence. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and recognizing Mahomed Akbar Khan.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 23, 2019*

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Speaker, I was unavailable and missed rollcall Vote 570. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 570.

IN RECOGNITION OF IVAN “BUD” WARREN ATWOOD, JR.’S LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO THE VETERAN COMMUNITY

**HON. JAHANA HAYES**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 23, 2019*

Mrs. HAYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ivan “Bud” Warren Atwood, Jr., of Torrington, Connecticut, who passed away on October 20, 2019 after a long battle with cancer. As a decorated member of the U.S. Army and a longtime advocate for veterans, Mr. Atwood lived a life that was truly emblematic of service to his community.

During his time in the U.S. Army, Mr. Atwood proved himself to be a dedicated and brave soldier. As a result, he was awarded a series of medals and decorations, including the National Defense Service Medal, the Marksman (Rifle), the Good Conduct Medal, a Korean War Service Medal, and a Letter of Appreciation.

However, work for the Armed Services and his country continued long after he left the Army. After retiring, Mr. Atwood turned his attention to veterans. He became the Director of the Torrington Veterans Service Office, where he had the privilege of providing services and final honors to countless veterans for at least eighteen years. In addition to this, Mr. Atwood served with the Northwest Connecticut Honor Guard and was instrumental in organizing local events for veterans such as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, Veterans Day, National Vietnam War Veterans Day, National Korean War Armistice Day, and many more.

Mr. Atwood’s work in the military community shows his character and integrity. His legacy lives on through the veterans for whom he advocated tirelessly, the organization which he championed, and his family members who have inherited his commitment to service. It cannot be understated how much he will be missed.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ivan Warren Atwood, Jr. as he rests in peace after such an extraordinary life. He truly made our community a better place.

HONORING RABBI MORLEY FEINSTEIN

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 23, 2019*

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a leader in the Jewish community, Rabbi Morley Feinstein.

Ordained in 1981 at Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, Rabbi Feinstein served as the assistant and first associate rabbi of Temple Beth-El in San Antonio, Texas. From 1987 to 2002, he served as senior rabbi of Temple Beth-El in South Bend, Indiana. During his tenure there, Indiana’s Governor recognized Rabbi Feinstein with the state’s highest citizen honor, The Sagamore of the Wabash, for his efforts in promoting peace and justice.

Rabbi Feinstein has devoted time for thirty-four summers teaching at the camps of the

Union for Reform Judaism. In addition, he has served in leadership roles with the Los Angeles Council of Religious Leaders, the Central Conference of American Rabbis, and the Board of Rabbis of Southern California.

For the past 17 years, Rabbi Feinstein has served as senior rabbi at University Synagogue in Los Angeles, where he has shared his love for teaching Torah and helped to grow a vibrant Jewish community. He has also brought his passion for music to this sacred work.

I have had the privilege of attending services officiated by Rabbi Feinstein and have seen firsthand the welcoming spiritual home he has fostered at University Synagogue.

In his role as rabbi emeritus, Rabbi Feinstein will remain a treasured resource to our community. Rabbi Feinstein is loved by his wife Dr. Margarete Myers Feinstein, sons, Aaron and Ari, twin daughters, Eliana and Renata, and his two grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I wish to thank Rabbi Feinstein for his service to our community.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE MARYSVILLE-PILCHUCK HIGH SCHOOL SHOOTING

**HON. RICK LARSEN**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 23, 2019*

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate a solemn anniversary.

Five years ago, on October 24, 2014, the Marysville, Washington and Tulalip communities were violently ripped apart by a tragic shooting at Marysville-Pilchuck High School. The victims—Zoe Galasso (14), Shaylee Chucklunaskit (14), Gia Soriano (14) and Andrew Fryberg (15)—were filled with ambition and excitement for life.

Jaylen Fryberg (15), also died.

Nate Hatch survived the shooting and spent months fighting for his life.

As a father of two boys, my heart still hurts when I think of those parents who received the worst news imaginable.

Today, five years later, I recognize the strength and resilience of the victims’ families, the Tulalip tribes, the Marysville-Pilchuck High School community and the city of Marysville, Washington. When faced with unimaginable tragedy, the community came together to celebrate the young victims and give thanks for their lives which were cut short in a senseless act of violence.

CONGRATULATING DR. C. DIANE MOSBY FOR 10 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE ANOINTED NEW LIFE BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 23, 2019*

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, it is my true pleasure to congratulate Dr. C. Diane Mosby on her deeply deserved recognition for 10 years of service as a Senior Pastor for the Anointed New Life Baptist Church in Richmond, Virginia.

Over the past decade and beyond, Dr. Mosby has served as a leader in her faith and community. Her dedication is evident through her Doctor of Ministry and Master of Divinity degrees from Virginia Union University. Moreover, her work in the Commonwealth, as well as completion of international ministry assignments in Ghana, France, and the Philippines, exhibits remarkable commitment to the communities she serves. In Dr. Mosby’s daily work, she has made a positive impact on countless lives and has honored the values she preaches at the Anointed New Life Baptist Church.

Dr. Mosby’s commitment is both inspiring and humbling. I hope to emulate her service as the Representative for Virginia’s 7th District and would like to thank her for all her work. I look forward to celebrating her continued service in years to come.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE AMERICAN SYRIAN ARAB CULTURAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL BANQUET

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 23, 2019*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the American Syrian Arab Cultural Association and celebrate its 2019 Annual Banquet. The association’s lasting commitment to supporting our Syrian Arab American community is worthy of commendation.

The American Syrian Arab Cultural Association (ASACA) is a non-profit and non-sectarian cultural and education organization with a mission to “acquaint the American public with the rich Arabic culture and heritage through the promotion of lectures, educational seminars and cultural events.” The association aspires to strengthen ties and promote friendly relations by building bridges between Arabic culture and the American community at large. In addition, ASACA tirelessly strives to preserve and instill Arabic language, culture, and heritage within the youth of the Arab community, ensuring it will be shared with generations to come.

ASACA’s Annual Banquet exemplifies the association’s continued commitment to our Arab American community. This year, the banquet will support Syrian Youth Empowerment (SYE), a non-profit initiative that empowers Syrian youth by providing paths to higher education. Established by a group of Syrian refugees who personally experienced the challenges of pursuing higher education both inside and outside Syria, SYE was created to support students in conflict areas and help them navigate the barriers they encounter throughout the college application process. ASACA’s important work alongside SYA will generate a greater awareness for the obstacles many Syrians face due to ongoing conflicts, and ASACA’s dedicated efforts with help better support students who wish to obtain their college degrees.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the American Syrian Arab Cultural Association as it hosts its annual banquet. ASACA’s commitment to empowering Syrian youth truly changes lives, and I am deeply appreciative of the association’s remarkable work.