

For her efforts to expand opportunities for nontraditional education and support disconnected families, Sister Paulette has been honored by countless organizations. Not only was she selected by City & State as one of New York's 50 Over 50 and Power 100, but also as a recipient for the Lewis Hine Award and Robin Hood Hero Award. During her tenure at Good Shepherd Services, the agency received The New York Times' Company Excellence Award in 2007 and Crain's Best Place to Work in 2014 Award. Sister Paulette also pioneered the city's first ever transfer school in partnership with the New York City Department of Education and helped reshape the city's foster care system.

Madam Speaker, the people of New York owe a debt of gratitude to Sister Paulette for her years of service. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting her as she moves on to her next phase of life. I wish her and her family all the best and thank her for all she has done for New York's youth.

HONORING MR. FELIPE 'TRES'
BARRERA

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Felipe 'Tres' Barrera, a member of the Washington Nationals 2019 World Series Champions and a Rio Grande Valley Native.

Tres Barrera is an incredibly talented professional baseball catcher for the Washington Nationals. He was born in Eagle Pass, Texas, and moved to the Rio Grande Valley when he was 10 years old. Tres played on the baseball team for Hidalgo High School his freshman year, winning the District 32-3A Most Valuable Player award, before transferring to Sharyland High School. At Sharyland High School, Tres played football and baseball, and quickly became a standout athlete and student. He was selected to two all-state teams, and won the 30-5A Most Valuable Player and the All-Valley Player of the Year as a senior. His batting average was an astonishing .452, hitting 22 home runs during his time at Sharyland High School.

Tres' incredible work ethic, determination, and sheer talent earned him a spot on the renowned baseball team for the University of Texas at Austin. As a freshman, Tres was the team's starting catcher, won the 2014 College Home Run Derby, and led Texas to the College World Series. His achievements continued on.

During his sophomore year, Tres was a vital part of the University of Texas' Big 12 championship team, while adding his name to the All-Big 12 second team. In his junior year campaign, Tres earned the 2016 Academic All-Big 12 baseball honors and was named an All-Big 12 honorable mention. He left Texas after his junior year to join the minor leagues, but only after walking away with 20 home runs and 106 runs batted in (RBIs) for the University of Texas at Austin.

Tres Barrera's hard work and dedication continued for the next three years as he played for a number of minor league teams before being called up to the Major League

Baseball, MLB, on September 8, 2019, for the Washington Nationals. Being a member of the Nationals, Tres participated in one of the most unlikely runs in the history of professional baseball.

The Nationals' record through 50 games was a poor 19 wins and 31 losses before they won 74 of their next 122 games. This secured the Nationals a wild-card spot in the postseason. The Nationals continued their unlikely playoff run until the very end, where they beat the Houston Astros in seven games, winning the World Series on October 10, 2019. On that day, Tres earned himself the coveted World Series ring.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Tres Barrera worked tirelessly to prove that with determination, will power, and commitment, we can accomplish anything we set ourselves to do in life. Tres made history, gave young people across our country the hope to achieve anything they set their mind to and for that I stand here today to recognize him. He is a proud son of South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley, and we appreciate him for his work and dedication to the Washington Nationals.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF VICTORIA J. POLLYEA

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and contributions of a tireless leader of the Tampa community, Victoria "Vicki" J. Pollyea.

Vicki was born and raised in Tampa, Florida. At an early age, Vicki learned how to take on challenges after being diagnosed with Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease (CMT). Vicki used her hard earned ability to "fight through" for herself and others her entire life. For example, having to undergo strenuous physical therapy in her youth, inspired her to pursue Occupational Therapy so she could be a source of strength and healing for others.

After graduating Summa Cum Laude from the University of Florida, Vicki worked as a pediatric occupational therapist until CMT forced her to retire. Again, even though she retired early from formal work, she kept her skills honed and never ceased using them to help others. And, being unable to continue practicing as an occupational therapist, she used her strength and energy to plunge into advocacy for CMT. She served as the web page moderator for Charcot-Marie-Tooth Association (CMTA); realized the impact that CMT had on her neighbors in Tampa and helped found the CMTA Tampa branch. Vicki then became a branch leader and a Support Group Leader for CMTA. She was always there for the newly diagnosed as a shining real-life example of perseverance.

Vicki's involvement and commitment to the Tampa community grew when she co-founded the Bayshore Gardens Neighborhood Association. She served as president for more than two decades. In addition to her position, she hosted annual holiday gatherings for neighbors, including many who didn't have anywhere else to go. Vicki also served on the Mayor's Neighborhood Task Force and helped

draft the City of Tampa's tree-protection code and her efforts to improve Bayshore Boulevard are evident every day.

Vicki used her voice to advocate for her South Tampa neighborhood and indeed the entire city. She helped manage the urban forest and ensured all neighborhoods had their voices heard. Shortly before her death, the Tampa City Council honored her with a commendation for her community service and a CMT walk-n-roll event has been named in her honor.

Vicki is survived by her husband, Archie Giannella; sister and brother-in-law, Lisa and Gordon; niece, Claire; stepson, Brock Heinz; godson, John Helmiere, Randi, John, and many beloved cousins. She also leaves behind a community of children, from babies to adults with babies of their own, who cherish her as a beloved "aunt".

Madam Speaker, on behalf of a grateful and saddened Tampa community, I am proud to honor Victoria J. Pollyea's life. Vicki was admired by her neighbors for her advocacy and her will to never let any challenge dim her passion to help others. Her devotion to her neighbors and Tampa inspires us still and will live on always in our hearts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Mr. LEWIS. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast roll call votes on November 20th and November 21st. Had I been present, I would have cast the following votes: on roll call 632, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 633, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 634, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 635, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 636, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 637, I would have voted No; on roll call 638, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 639, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 640, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 641, I would have voted Aye; and on roll call 642, I would have voted Aye.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR EUGENE PARKISON FOR HIS 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE LEXINGTON COMMUNITY

HON. TROY BALDERSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mayor Eugene Parkison, for the forty years he has dedicated to Lexington, Ohio and the surrounding area.

Mayor Parkison's career, now spanning more than four decades, exemplifies a selfless commitment to public service. After being appointed to a Lexington City Council seat in 1978, Gene was sworn in as Mayor in 1983. Today, with more than 35 years in this role, he is now the longest-tenured mayor in Richland County history.

As a holder of public office, Mayor Parkison has continually gone above and beyond his call of duty. His dedication has manifested