

Breonna Taylor. And the people in this country seem to want to see change take place.

I am amazed at how one question by a moderator at an event has made a significant impact. The simple question was, and I am paraphrasing: Would you denounce white supremacy?

It was a simple question. It did not get the appropriate answer. As a result, people are starting to believe that we ought not allow an answer that is inappropriate to be acceptable.

I am just amazed at how persons across the aisle—and I am grateful to them—persons across the aisle have said that there should have been the appropriate answer given, which is: I condemn white supremacy; I condemn the supremacist.

That is the answer, simple, easy answer.

And persons across the aisle are sending a clear and perspicuous message to the Chief Executive Officer: He needs to change that response—walk it back; talk it back; crawl it back; just take it back.

I don't know that he will, but I do know this: When we have my friends across the aisle making it clear that this was wrong, something is happening here, and I am grateful to my friends. I thank you for taking the bold position that you are taking, not allowing this to be just another one of the many episodes wherein inappropriate statements have been made and not challenged. I thank you for what you have done, all of you, those who have said you need to condemn white supremacy.

Something strange is happening. There is a change taking place, and I am grateful to have lived long enough to see this change occur.

RECOGNIZING LAKE COUNTY MANAGER JEFF COLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SPANO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jeff Cole for his 30 years of distinguished service to the citizens of Florida, culminating this year with his retirement as the Lake County manager.

Mr. Cole began his public service career in 1990, supporting the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners. In 1994, he embarked on a 21-year journey with the St. Johns River Water Management District, overseeing intergovernmental affairs and public and media outreach.

His long record of accomplishments brought him to Lake County in 2016, where he took on heightened responsibilities and focused on enhancing government efficiencies and accountability, while improving the quality of life in Lake County.

Through challenges ranging from Hurricane Irma to COVID-19, Mr. Cole remained accessible and demonstrated unwavering leadership and dedication to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Jeff and his wife, Audrey, the very best in the next chapter of their lives together. From the bottom of my heart, I thank Jeff for his commitment to our citizens and the legacy that he is leaving behind. He will be missed.

REMEMBERING SPECIALIST ALEXANDER J. MILLER

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Specialist Alexander J. Miller, a young soldier who served our Nation in the Armed Forces and was, sadly, killed in combat in Nuristan province, Afghanistan, on July 31, 2009.

Alex attended East Ridge High School in Clermont, Florida and, soon after graduation, enlisted in the U.S. Army, being assigned to the 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Light Infantry, based in Fort Drum, New York.

Alex hoped to attend the University of Central Florida after completing his tour of duty, but that dream vanished when insurgents attacked his unit.

Miller was awarded two medals posthumously: the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star.

May his memory and sacrifices be a reminder to all of us of his service and love of country.

Our thoughts and prayers remain with the entirety of the Miller family and his community these many years later.

REMEMBERING FIRST LIEUTENANT IVAN D. LECHOWICH

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the legacy of a local resident and hero of Florida's 15th District, First Lieutenant Ivan Lechowich.

Lieutenant Lechowich was a devoted husband and loving father who served his country in uniform and was, sadly, killed in Ghazni province, Afghanistan, on September 28, 2011.

Lieutenant Lechowich graduated from the International Baccalaureate Program at King High School, earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Florida in 2007, and, after joining the U.S. Army in 2009, deployed to Afghanistan 2 years later.

Ivan was serving as a Sapper Platoon leader for the 515th Sapper Company out of Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, when an improvised explosive device took his life.

Ivan was awarded the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Army Commendation Medal, and NATO Medal.

To his beloved wife, Jenn; daughter, Natalie Marie; and the rest of the Lechowich family, our district and community still mourns the loss of Ivan these many years later. May his memory and many sacrifices be a reminder of his love for his family and his Nation.

REMEMBERING SERGEANT DANIEL MCKINNON ANGUS

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Sergeant Daniel McKinnon Angus, a local hero in Flor-

ida's 15th District, who was killed in action in Afghanistan on January 24, 2010.

Daniel graduated from Armwood High School in 2000 and, in 2003, joined the U.S. Marine Corps where he knew he belonged and hoped to make a career of serving his community and country.

Daniel stood out among his peers and received the Combat Action Ribbon, two Good Conduct Medals, the Afghanistan and Iraq Campaign Medals, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and a number of service decorations.

Daniel loved spending time with his wife, Bonnie, and his 1-year-old daughter. Now 11 years old, may she always know and treasure the knowledge of her father's heroism.

Men and women like Daniel who are willing to lay down their lives in defense of our country and in support of others many miles away are what make our Nation the greatest on Earth. Let us never take their sacrifice or that of their surviving families in vain.

HONORING DR. GOVINDAPPA VENKATASWAMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, today, on the 102nd anniversary of his birth, I rise to honor Dr. Govindappa Venkataswamy, an Indian ophthalmologist who devoted his life to preventing blindness in India and across the world.

Dr. Venkataswamy's work preserved the vision of millions of men, women, and children, allowing them the blessing of sight and the opportunity to enjoy independent, productive lives.

Though Dr. V suffered from a severe form of rheumatoid arthritis that left his hands permanently disfigured, he defied all odds to become an expert ophthalmologist and mastered the art of cataract surgery.

Having witnessed the terrible impact of blindness on those without the means to pay for their own care, Dr. V pursued an extraordinarily ambitious program to end preventable blindness in India.

In 1976, Dr. V and members of his family founded the first of what would later become a network of Aravind Eye Hospitals in Madurai, India.

The Aravind Eye Care System has been acclaimed by Harvard Business School and is the focus of an HBS case study. It has also been recognized for excellence in publications, including *Fast Company*, *Forbes*, and *The Wall Street Journal*, and it has inspired healthcare organizations throughout the developing world.

From its humble beginning in Madurai, the Aravind Eye Care System now provides care to over 4 million patients and performs over 500,000 surgeries each year in hospitals and clinics throughout south India.