

After four years of service, James returned the family dairy business with his three brothers, John, Jess, and Larry. After some deliberation, James thought it would be good to move the family business to 13621 W. Henry Miller Road in Los Banos.

James was a member of Our Lady of Fatima Society and president for 8 years, Director of the Los Banos Dairyman's Association many years, driver for cancer patients for 10 years, and volunteered at New Bethany Residential & Skilled Facility for 20 years, just a few of his interests. He was a member at the San Luis Canal Company over 60 years, U.S. American Legion in Los Banos, charter member for National WWII Museum in memory of his brother, was honored in 2013 for living in Merced County for over 50 years, and 2017 Honor for Outstanding Volunteer in Merced County.

James is survived by his wife of 68 years, Dolores; their sons, James Areias, Jr. and wife Janice, Dennis Areias and wife Kirsten; and daughters, Cynthia Arambel and husband Daniel, and Julie Areias.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating and honoring the life of Mr. James Alexander Areias. A proud veteran, dedicated dairy farmer and an outstanding role model in the community. I join his family, friends and community in honoring his great life and contributions.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BRETT GUTHRIE**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 28, 2020*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 250.

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HONORING THE CAREER OF THE  
HONORABLE MAX RODRIGUEZ

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 28, 2020*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of my good friend Max Rodriguez. Supervisor Rodriguez is a longtime Madera County Supervisor for District 4 and a trusted leader in our community. Supervisor Rodriguez is retiring after serving on the Board of Supervisors for the past 15 years.

Supervisor Rodriguez was born and raised in Madera, California. He graduated from Madera High School in 1958 and went to Fresno City College. Shortly after, Supervisor Rodriguez took jobs working in the fields in order to provide for his family. He then began working for American Forest Products, known as North Fork Sawmill, for 25 years. During his time at the sawmill, Supervisor Rodriguez was the Financial Secretary and President of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union. In 1985 when the sawmill closed, Supervisor Rodriguez went back to school and became a Farmers Insurance agent until his retirement in 2008.

Supervisor Rodriguez was appointed to the Madera District Fair Board by Governor Jerry

Brown, appointed to the Madera County Mosquito Abatement Board from 1982 to 2001, and served as a Madera County Planning Commissioner. In 2003, Supervisor Rodriguez decided to run for Madera County Board of Supervisors and won his current seat in 2004. During his tenure on the board, he has prioritized his constituents and worked hard for the people of Madera County. He was past member and vice-president of the Pan-American club, former volunteer for American Heart Association, past member of New Hope Madera, NAACP Branch 1084, and Madera Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He is currently the Chairman of First Five Commission, Madera County Transportation Commission, Local Agency Formation Commission, Tesoro Viejo Conservancy and sits on the High-Speed Rail Heavy Maintenance Facility task force.

During his free time, Supervisor Rodriguez is an active member of St. Joachim's Catholic Church and enjoys spending time with his wife Sarah and their family. He also loves to fish and camp and enjoys being in nature.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the career of Supervisor Max Rodriguez. His love for public service and Madera County is evident throughout the course of his career. I join his family and friends in congratulating Supervisor Max Rodriguez on a well-deserved retirement and wish him continued health and happiness in this new phase of life.

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HONORING JOSH NUSS AS IOWAN  
OF THE WEEK

**HON. CYNTHIA AXNE**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 28, 2020*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, today I want to honor a Iowan who is fighting for change and assistance for those who have amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, ALS or also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. Executive Director of the Iowa ALS Society, Josh Nuss, has been a leading champion in our state for those diagnosed with this tragic, progressive and misunderstood disease. I am proud to honor Josh as our Iowan of the Week.

Earlier in December, I was proud to vote for a bill that ensure those who have ALS can receive social security benefits as soon as they receive their diagnosis. I'm glad to see that bill signed into law, which is going to offer financial assistance to those with this disease. But perhaps no one was more excited to see this legislation pass than Josh, who listened to the vote happen live as it passed the Senate and then the House. Josh said it was amazing to hear Senators and Representatives from across the country speak on behalf of those with ALS. He hopes too that this bill will open the door to other rare diseases and illnesses who need assistance too.

Josh's work with ALS began in 2004 when he first met Iowans with this rare but fatal disease. When in 2014, he had the opportunity to join the Iowa ALS Chapter, he jumped at it. The work he does is deeply meaningful because he is "helping the best people at the worst time of their lives", he said. As part of Executive Director for Iowa ALS, Josh's work include advocacy and supporting our community. Iowa ALS helps those with ALS learn

about their care options, invest in research, and hold community events like the annual "Walk for ALS" here in Des Moines and the national Ice Bucket Challenge that raises money—and awareness—for those with ALS. As part of Josh's work, he makes multiple trips from Iowa to Washington D.C. each year, meeting with our lawmakers to rally support for ALS research, funding, and of course this bill. Josh made this trip on behalf of Iowans with ALS who could not, bringing their stories to legislators across Iowa and Washington.

Josh's passion for Iowa is clear. He's served our communities in so many ways and we're lucky to have him during this extremely difficult time, as the pandemic has not only been frightening for those with longterm illnesses, like ALS, but the economic strain on our nonprofits across the country. Although the pandemic has changed the way Josh and the Iowa ALS provide help, they still make sure they are providing the same level of care for Iowans and their families. Josh credits his amazing co-workers, caring board members, and volunteers across the state who all work together and of course his wife, Kate, and their twin daughters Lydia and Taylor—who would like the record to show they are 12 and a half. "We are Iowa" he said, explaining that Iowans pitch in and help each other in times of need. It is Josh's love for his fellow Iowans, passion for change, and service to our community that I am proud to name him Iowan of the Week.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF JULIO  
AUGUST SANDINO

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 28, 2020*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Julio August Sandino, who passed away on November 17, 2020. Julio was a longtime Merced County resident and United States Army veteran.

Julio was born on September 29, 1933 in Merced, California to Guido Sr. and Carola Sandino, both Italian immigrants. He was the youngest of three boys. Growing up on a farm, Julio understood the value of hard work and the art of growing the best onions and tomatoes. After being a four-year basketball varsity player for Merced High School, setting several school scoring records and receiving the best student award in woodshop, Julio joined the United States Army from 1953 to 1955 as a corporal stationed in Germany during the Cold War. During that time, he made the regimental basketball team.

Julio returned home after serving honorably in the Army and met the love of his life, Rita Albiani, a daughter of Italian immigrants from Livingston, California. In 1956, they were married at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Merced and started a family of their own. Julio started his own business, Sandino's Custom Cabinet Shop, which he owned for 40 years until retirement, and Rita worked as an accountant and managed medical offices.

Julio started his love of woodwork on his family's farm and converted animal and storage sheds into his cabinet shop. He made beautiful pieces of cabinet work that was well-known in Merced County, Tahoe, San Francisco, and Yosemite. During his career, Julio