

Oh, I won't be afraid.
Just as long as you stand,
stand by me!"

America is stronger when its people stand together; all of the people that make up the rich and wondrous tapestry of our country, including the members of our LGBTQ communities.

Mr. Speaker, in honoring the lives lost in the Orlando tragedy, it is important that we say and remember the names of the loved and lost like Shane Evan Tomlinson, who was 33 years old and beloved by all who knew him; an amazing young man who captivated the hearts of so many with his angelic voice and charisma.

And there were so many more:
Stanley Almodovar III, 23 years old,
Amanda Alvear, 25 years old,
Oscar A Aracena-Montero, 26 years old,
Rodolfo Ayala-Ayala, 33 years old,
Antonio Davon Brown, 29 years old,
Darryl Roman Burt II, 29 years old,
Angel L. Candelario-Padro, 28 years old,
Juan Chevez-Martinez, 25 years old,
Luis Daniel Conde, 39 years old,
Cory James Connell, 21 years old,
Tevin Eugene Crosby, 25 years old,
Deonka Deidra Drayton, 32 years old,
Simon Adrian Carrillo Fernandez, 31 years old,

old,
Leroy Valentin Fernandez, 25 years old,
Mercedes Marisol Flores, 26 years old,
Peter O. Gonzalez-Cruz, 22 years old,
Juan Ramon Guerrero, 22 years old,
Paul Terrell Henry, 41 years old,
Frank Hernandez, 27 years old,
Miguel Angel Honorato, 30 years old,
Javier Jorge-Reyes, 40 years old,
Jason Benjamin Josaphat, 19 years old,
Eddie Jamoldroy Justice, 30 years old,
Anthony Luis Laureanodisla, 25 years old,
Christopher Andrew Leinonen, 32 years old,
Alejandro Barrios Martinez, 21 years old,
Brenda Lee Marquez McCool, 49 years old,
Gilberto Ramon Silva Menendez, 25 years old,

old,
Kimberly Morris, 37 years old,
Akyra Monet Murray, 18 years old,
Luis Omar Ocasio-Capo, 20 years old,
Geraldo A. Ortiz-Jimenez, 25 years old,
Eric Ivan Ortiz-Rivera, 36 years old,
Joel Rayon Paniagua, 32 years old,
Jean Carlos Mendez Perez, 35 years old,
Enrique L. Rios, Jr., 25 years old,
Jean C. Nives Rodriguez, 27 years old,
Xavier Emmanuel Serrano Rosado, 35 years old,

Christopher Joseph Sanfeliz, 24 years old,
Yilmary Rodriguez Solivan, 24 years old,
Edward Sotomayor Jr., 34 years old,
Shane Evan Tomlinson, 33 years old,
Martin Benitez Torres, 33 years old,
Jonathan Antonio Camuy Vega, 24 years old,

old,
Juan P. Rivera Velazquez, 37 years old,
Luis S. Vielma, 22 years old,
Franky Jimmy Dejesus Velazquez, 50 years old,

Luis Daniel Wilson-Leon, 37 years old,
Jerald Arthur Wright, 31 years old.

Maya Angelou said: "Love recognizes no barriers. It jumps hurdles, leaps fences, penetrates walls to arrive at its destination full of hope."

And let me add that right now justice requires us to do two things.

First, Congress needs to pass H.R. 3185, the "Equality Act of 2015," to write into the

books of law the same protections for our LGBTQ brothers and sisters that other Americans have long enjoyed.

Second, Congress must pass H.R. 4269, the "Assault Weapons Ban Act of 2015," to restore the ban on assault weapons so that school children, church going and community members can live their lives free of the fear of falling victim to gun violence.

IN HONOR OF THE WOOD FAMILY

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 20, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the loving generosity of a family in my district, Jaoni and Gabriel Wood. Jaoni and Gabriel were recently named Foster Parents of the Year for Loudoun County for their steadfast guardianship of a pair of siblings who needed a home.

Gabriel and Jaoni had two biological children of their own, ages 11 and 9, and raised them in a warm and loving home in Loudoun County, Virginia. They saw at-risk families and children who have been affected by traumatic incidents and took it upon themselves to change their lives for the better. Gabriel and Jaoni created an adoption ministry at the Purcellville Baptist Church in Loudoun County with the goal of teaching the community ways they can serve and help children in need.

The Wood family undertook the challenge of fostering a 7 year old boy and his 4 year old sister. After caring for them for nearly three years, the Jaoni and Gabriel plan on welcoming the two children permanently into their family. While the years have surely been filled with joyous moments, it has not always been easy. Gabriel and Jaoni have spent countless hours helping the newest members of their family feel welcome, while also learning themselves how to handle the emotional and physical needs of the siblings. By opening their home and their hearts, Gabriel and Jaoni have demonstrated the most sincere form of love possible.

According to the Virginia Department of Social Services, as of 2016 there are more than 5,000 children who are in foster care in the Commonwealth of Virginia and over sixty percent of those children live in a non-relative home. The Wood family wants all of these children to succeed in the face of these hardships and it cannot be overstated the incredible impact they make on their lives, both through the personal foster care they provide and through the services they have at the Purcellville Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Jaoni and Gabriel Wood for their service to the children of our community and wishing them all the best as they raise their new family and continue to help those in need.

JERRY SLOAN

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 20, 2016

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Jerry Sloan for receiving the

2016 Chuck Daly Lifetime Achievement Award. Jerry was born and raised outside of McLeansboro, Illinois, where he attended high school and played basketball. He graduated as an all-state player from McLeansboro High School in 1960.

The Baltimore Bullets selected Jerry in the 1965 NBA draft, and later traded him to the Chicago Bulls. He retired as a player in 1976. Jerry then was hired on as an assistant coach by the Bulls, and in 1979 he was promoted to head coach. He would serve that position for three years before moving to Utah as an assistant coach for the Utah Jazz. He stayed in that position for four years and then became the head coach in the 1988–1989 season. Jerry coached the Jazz for twenty-three seasons, with two appearances in the NBA finals.

Sloan's win-loss record of 1,221–803, placed him third all-time in NBA wins at the time he retired in 2011. He coached the Jazz to sixteen consecutive winning seasons and nineteen playoff appearances. His years coaching the Jazz are also the most years a coach has stayed with one team. He is among only nine coaches who have surpassed 1,000 victories and one of two who have won 1,000 with one team.

The Chuck Daly Lifetime Achievement Award honors the memory of Hall of Famer Chuck Daly, given by the NBA to a coach who has spent a lifetime in basketball and has a "standard of integrity, competitive excellence and tireless promotion" of the game. I offer my congratulations to Jerry Sloan on his outstanding achievement, and I wish him the best in retirement.

HONORING LYMAN ORCHARDS AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 275TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 20, 2016

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the community of Middlefield, Connecticut in extending my congratulations to the Lyman family as they mark the 275th Anniversary of Lyman Orchards—a very special milestone for this wonderful community treasure.

The story of Lyman Orchards begins in 1741 when John and Hope Lyman purchased thirty-seven acres of land and started the family farm. Eight generations later, Lyman Orchards remains family-run and is, in fact, the 12th oldest family run business still in operation in the United States.

Over its 275-year history, Lyman Orchards has grown and today encompasses over 1,100 acres of land where it produces over one hundred varieties of fruit and is home to the Apple Barrel where shoppers can purchase produce from the farm as well as products created by that produce like their famous high-top apple pie, cider donuts, and fresh apple cider. Families can enjoy the "pick-your-own" opportunities, a business model that Lyman Orchards was the first to introduce in 1966. From apples and pumpkins in the fall to strawberries, blueberries, and raspberries in the early summer and peaches, nectarines, and pears in the late summer, you can pick your own favorites nearly all year long.