



Written by [Raven Clabough](#) on August 8, 2016

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The Goodness of America

Grads Re-graduate

Recent graduates at East Juniata High School in McAlisterville, Pennsylvania, staged a wonderful surprise for graduating senior Scott Dunn, Jr., who missed his graduation as a result of a car accident that left him in a coma for several days. They recreated the graduation so that Dunn did not have to miss such a momentous occasion.

The *Lewistown Sentinel* reported that Dunn had been in a terrible car crash on May 22, forcing him to be airlifted to a nearby hospital, where he spent several days in a coma, during which time the high-school graduation took place.

According to ABC 6 News, Dunn was “devastated” when he awoke from his coma to learn that he missed his graduation ceremony.

When the school’s principal, Benjamin Fausey, learned that Dunn had been released from the hospital and was home recovering, he contacted the family to indicate that the school “wanted to do something special for him.”

That is exactly what the school did by recreating the commencement experience for Dunn. On June 14, three weeks after the actual graduation took place, more than 50 of the 80 graduating seniors donned their caps and gowns once more to walk across the stage with their classmate and allow him to enjoy the graduation that he missed.

WREG writes that some of the first responders who were at the scene of Dunn’s crash were even in attendance.

Dunn led the procession of his classmates to “Pomp and Circumstance” to start the ceremony. Brief speeches were given before Dunn’s name was called so that he could receive his diploma, and ABC News reported that when he did, he received thunderous applause.

Dunn’s classmates gathered around him after the ceremony so that they could toss their caps into the air together.

Fausey states that the participating students had as much fun as Dunn. “Oh goodness, all the students were all excited and in their graduation gowns and caps again,” Fausey told ABC News. “There was so much positive energy.”

And Dunn was floored by the support his classmates showed him. He said, “I’m speechless, to know this many people are behind me.”

We Stand With Orlando

When the crew and fliers on an Orlando-bound JetBlue flight learned that one of the passengers was the grandmother of Orlando shooting victim Luis Omar Ocasio-Capo, one of the youngest victims of the Orlando nightclub massacre, they went above and beyond to make her as comfortable as possible.

On June 14, Ocasio-Capo’s grandmother boarded a JetBlue flight to Orlando so that she could attend her grandson’s funeral. Flight attendant Kelly Karas noted that the grandmother was grieving and alone, and Karas did not want her to exit the plane without knowing that she was surrounded by people who



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cared.

CNN writes, “Karas passed around a piece of paper for passengers to sign so their words might ease the grandmother’s aching heart.” But instead of simply signing their names, the passengers reportedly wrote lengthy notes of condolence and compassion, prompting the need for more paper.

The notes were presented to the grandmother at the end of the flight before she exited the plane. “When we gathered them together to present them to her, we didn’t have just a sheet of paper covered in names, which is what I had envisioned. Instead, we had page after page after page after page of long messages offering condolences, peace, love and support. There were even a couple of cash donations, and more than a few tears,” Karas wrote on Facebook.

And the show of support did not end there. At the end of the flight, following the standard deplaning announcements, Karas said, “We stand with Orlando.” And with permission from the grandmother, a moment of silence for Omar was offered.

Karas also noted that as passengers exited the plane, each and every one of them stopped to offer their condolences to the grieving grandmother.

“As we deplaned, *every single person stopped to offer her their condolences*. Some just said they were sorry, some touched her hand, some hugged her, some cried with her. But every single person stopped to speak to her, and not a single person was impatient at the slower deplaning process,” she wrote.

Newser reported that JetBlue offered free flights to families of the victims of the Orlando mass shooting so that they could attend the funerals of their loved ones.

“Our thoughts are with the victims and their loved ones,” the airline said in a statement.

Dance Features Volunteer Daddies

On May 20, the Chicago Police Department (CPD) sponsored its second annual “Daddy Daughter Dance” and for the second year in a row, members of the police department went the extra step by offering to escort young ladies who did not have fathers to take them to the dance.

The Chicago Police Department stated that the purpose of the free event is to encourage positive relationships between fathers in the community and their daughters. Unfortunately, many of the young ladies in attendance did not have fathers to bring them to the dance.

Last year, officers volunteered to escort the daughters who had no fathers, and many of them kept in touch and escorted the same young ladies to the dance for the second year in a row.

This year’s event witnessed 150 girls in attendance, NBC Chicago reported, which doubled last year’s attendance.

According to the CPD, the event has helped foster a sense of community and build a relationship between police and residents. “After last year’s event, we had several officers and the young ladies that they escorted, they kept up with one another and it really bridged a gap,” said Sergeant Kimberly Woods. “It let the girls know that officers are just people too and we dance, and we dance funny like your dads do.”

Those in attendance enjoyed good food and music and an overall good time.

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