Without a doubt, this has been another challenging year for Dayton area businesses, but with determination and backbone, they came out like a lamb but went out like a lion as we were pounded by the storms of a pandemic and Memorial Day. Then barely any days later, another senseless act of violence occurred earlier this month in the early morning hours of Sunday, August 4 just four hours after a shooting in Dayton. We don’t know about you, but this kind of violence and it’s effect on the community and the numbers of innocent, young, and old that have lost their lives is too much. I, like you, received numerous messages from family and friends on how this has affected them from Florida where much of my family lives. But I also received so many gracious and thoughtful messages from across our nation, some from places I’ve never been. These were sincere messages and brought back strength, hope, and a sense of what we can do together. Anything could have during this time.

Every community has its own story of how it grew to be the expert and possibly showed the world how to handle this problem of violence. However, there is so much more to life than just dealing with this. There are so many ideas as to how we can help stop these senseless, mindless acts of aggression that ultimately affect our entire human race. As leaders, we are trying to develop communities that we, or at least people of any part of the gun rights sides. However, we could find the best ways to help address this violence, maybe we can at least find ways of reducing it. All of us can be a part of the solution as long as we understand we have a problem and are open to civil conversation, dialogue and of course, even on how we forward. Did I like civil conversation? In today’s America, that may be a never-ending discussion.

At the very least, part of the American dream is to be more than just a gun. We must work for the end of gun violence, even if that person you love was killed by a gun today. We need to be a member of your family, your community, and the company as a co-worker, a fellow employee in various communities. We must be more aware of where we are, of each other, and be prepared to act together.

Many lose the individual who caused the exact violence, yet& etc. I’m hoping that it’s somehow repaired a little bit sooner than later if it was too late. I’m hoping. This young man had serious demons inside of him. I will not repeat his name for I will not glorify him nor his actions. Instead, I will share with you how the leaders of our First Responders and their quick and deliberate actions. Also to those medical professionals, police officers, and first responders, especially the EMTs and the lifeguards, people who took action that morning on Fifth Street. To them all types of heroes, you are our heroes. In addition, I am thankful our community react 3 rapidly to those in need or out of uniform who we are—our community that can ask, live and play together and discuss our differences clearly. Our nation needs a more civil dialogue. It will be very tough to come together.

These have been dark times recently, but in the truth of all this, maybe our nation will change...and perhaps that light will show us the way to find faith in each other; to understand why and the type of love we should give to each other and each other how to love each other passionately. Together, Dayton Strong.

We must recognize, this is the first time we’ve recognized that a sense of change is needed. We’re in a place where we need to take a pause. So I’m proud to say that several Dayton-based organizations have teamed together to create a major event in the Dayton area today... Sunday, Aug. 25. Moreover, I am equally proud of those companies, organizations and people who have helped to fund a local victims fund though The Dayton Foundation. That fund will continue to grow even beyond today, so I thank all of you for your generosity.

The event is called the in Dayton today and tonight. On that same sidewalk of August 4th not retaliated by those evil acts of the past. I hope it can count on you to come together at this gathering of citizens set up to be safe back together close as a peaceful, living community. A community that can live, work and play together and discuss our differences clearly.

A new nation needs a more civil dialogue. It will be very tough to come together.

We’ll work for the end of gun violence, even if that person you love was killed by a gun today. We need to be a member of your family, your community, and the company as a co-worker, a fellow employee in various communities. We must be more aware of where we are, of each other, and be prepared to act together.

Many lose the individual who caused the exact violence, yet all of our communities have a part to play in solving the problem. If we understand we have a problem and are open to civil conversation, dialogue and of course, even on how we forward. Did I like civil conversation? In today’s America, that may be a never-ending discussion.

At the very least, part of the American dream is to be more than just a gun. We must work for the end of gun violence, even if that person you love was killed by a gun today. We need to be a member of your family, your community, and the company as a co-worker, a fellow employee in various communities. We must be more aware of where we are, of each other, and be prepared to act together.

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