

Let's Celebrate Our Children

Several weeks ago, I had the wonderful experience of visiting with 4th graders at Minor Elementary school. There's nothing like presenting to these little guys and fielding their "no holds barred" questions.

Questions like:

- Do you know President Biden?
- How much money do you make?
- How old are you?

And others.

Then, Uvalde.

A week later, I was a guest on a call-in radio program, Hispanic station, Energia Auditia Radio. Caller after caller asked the same question: Will my children be safe when they return to school in the fall?"

The radio personality was stunned the first time the question was asked and looked at me as if to say, "I'm sorry. Do you want to answer that?"

I did answer.

I said that I was extremely sad that such a thing could happen. I empathized as a grandfather and great-grandfather. I told them we had a professional and highly trained Lilburn Police Department. And I assured them that Gwinnett Public Schools security and all police authorities were considering every possible preventative measure. None of these were "answers," only an acknowledgement of their weeping hearts.

This is not a political post.

This is not a solicitation of solutions.

This is not a blame placer.

This is one grandfather – shocked and grieving - as I know you are.

Celebrate your children. Bring them to the City Park Splash Pad. Buy them ice cream. Plan to attend the July 4 "Sparkle in the Park" to give the family fun times to remember.

Give them joy.