

Good morning, Senator Carla Joseph Chair of the Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection, and other Senators present.

My name is Kaylen Gregory and I'm here to speak posthumously in support of Mr. Myron Corbett

"Corbett", as he was affectionally known was more than a coach, mentor, and leader to me he became family! Unfortunately, he's not here with us today but what better time to honor him than today?

I jumped at the opportunity to speak in support of Corbett because of his selfless work in support of young men and women in the Virgin Islands. I had the privilege of being coached by Corbett during my high school years, and I can confidently say that he played a significant role in who I am today.

Growing up in St. Thomas, the opportunities to become a college athlete were extremely limited, and receiving a scholarship to play Division 1 college basketball was just a pipe dream; but not to Corbett! He believed in me and saw potential that I didn't know existed.

Corbett devoted his life to serving others, and he found immense fulfillment in his efforts to empower and support the youth of the Virgin Islands. He poured his heart and soul into developing the skills of young athletes, and his tireless efforts have made an impact that will never be forgotten.

His commitment knew no bounds, as he constantly went above and beyond to ensure that we had every opportunity to succeed and realize our full potential. He fully recognized the life-altering opportunities that were at stake and fought to give many of us a chance at success!

It was more than just his dedication to the game of basketball that made Corbett truly special. He invested so much of his one-on-one time to help us improve our skills, but beyond that, he instilled in us the importance of a strong work ethic and taught us many valuable life lessons.

Thanks to Myron Corbett, I learned to think bigger and not limit myself. The hours he put in gave me the confidence to believe in my abilities not only as a player but as a man. He showed me that with dedication and hard work, I could accomplish my goals and break through the limitations that society had placed on me.

I recalled when I told him that I was considering a few Division 3 colleges he replied: "Are you crazy, you are playing Division 1"; At the time I didn't think that it was remotely possible, but he made it his duty to not only train me, but to create my high school highlight tape, and call countless coaches to advocate on my behalf. "All we need is one yes" he would say.

Corbett was instrumental in helping me secure a Division 1 basketball scholarship from Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York. During my time there, I was a four-year letterman and served as team captain. Ultimately, I graduated with honors and earned a Bachelor of Science in Economics.

Thanks to this experience, I was able to launch my career in finance and am now a Senior Manager at Nasdaq in New York City. While I am enjoying my current role, I also look forward to the day when I can return home to St. Thomas.

Though Corbett's time with us was brief, he lived a life of purpose and left an indelible mark on many young Virgin Islanders. His unwavering commitment to serving others and developing young talent has left a legacy that will endure for generations to come.

His dedication to making a positive difference in the world serves as a powerful reminder of the transformative power of selflessness and service.

Thank you, Senator Donna Frett Gregory and the other members of the 35th Legislature for recognizing Mr. Myron Corbett by naming the Basketball court in Annas Retreat posthumously in his honor.

I am available to answer any questions you may have. Once again thank you for the opportunity to speak in favor of this great Virgin Islander.

- Kaylen Gregory