

Dan Crenshaw had a passion to make the world a better place even as a small kid, and he wanted to do it by fighting evil as a Navy SEAL. It has been this passion—and a “never say die” spirit—that has led Rep. Crenshaw to success as a SEAL and, now, as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Dan Crenshaw was born in Texas but raised abroad—mostly in Colombia and Ecuador—due to his father’s work in the oil and gas industry. He eventually moved back to the states following his high school graduation to attend college.

After graduating from Tuft’s University in 2006, Crenshaw found himself in Coronado, California, set on achieving his goal to become a Navy SEAL. Through Hell Week and beyond, Crenshaw persevered and, ultimately, graduated from BUD/S (Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL Training) and deployed to Fallujah, Iraq as a member of SEAL Team Three.

On his third deployment, however, Crenshaw’s life changed forever. It was 2012, and Crenshaw’s unit was patrolling a street in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan when an IED exploded in front of their caravan. Crenshaw’s translator was killed in front of him, and Crenshaw himself went down with severe injuries to the face. When the smoke cleared, Crenshaw could no longer see. In the end, Crenshaw would gain back the sight in his left eye but lose his right eye.

The incident gave Crenshaw the chance to retire from the SEALs, but he pushed through, doing two more tours of duty in Bahrain and South Korea.

Following his retirement from the military, Crenshaw pursued another avenue of public service: politics. In 2018, Crenshaw defeated Democrat Tom Litton to become the representative for Texas’s second congressional district.

An example of Crenshaw’s character came from an unlikely place: Saturday Night Live and comedian Pete Davidson. SNL comedian Pete Davidson poked fun at Crenshaw’s eye patch on the eve of Election Day 2018 and said he lost his eye in a “war or something.” Many were appalled at the insensitivity of Davidson’s comments, but Crenshaw took it in stride, going onto SNL with Davidson the following episode. Davidson apologized, and Crenshaw graciously accepted it in a moment of bipartisan unity. Crenshaw would later say, “Give the benefit of the doubt to your opponents if they walk back a controversial statement.”

Unfortunately, Davidson would later rescind his apology, even then Crenshaw—always a voice for civil discourse—simply moved on.

Bringing civility to politics is one of Crenshaw’s main focuses. He has consistently put a spotlight on the idea that even though you may disagree with someone on something, that does not make them a bad person. “If you think my ideas are awful,” he once said, “you should say as much. But there is a difference between attacking an idea and attacking the person behind the idea.”

His continued calls for civility do not mean he will back off from a debate over policy, however. “I will attack ideas very hard. I am not shy about that one bit. So I don’t want people to think that because I had a call for civility that that means I shy away from debate and that I’m agreeable. That’s not the case. What is the case is that I will not question who you are as a person.”

One of the most high-profile actions taken by Crenshaw since joining Congress was the bill introduced by himself and Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR) that would allow Americans to sue foreign countries in federal court for physical or economic damage caused by that country's negligence. This bill was in direct response to reports that China knew of the COVID-19 pandemic and did nothing to stop it, therefore, allowing it to spread unchecked exponentially.

"We need to hold the Chinese government accountable for their malicious lies and coverup that allowed the coronavirus to spread across the world. The communist regime expelled journalists, silenced whistleblowers, and withheld vital information that delayed the global response to the pandemic. Simply put: their actions cost American lives and livelihoods. This bill will help ensure China's actions are not without consequences," said Crenshaw.

Rep. Crenshaw has not shied away from dealing with the Chinese Communist Party in an area unrelated to the COVID-19 pandemic, either. On July 29th, Crenshaw introduced H.R.7855 "To authorize the President to use military force for the purpose of securing and defending Taiwan against armed attack, and for other purposes." Given the CCP's recent takeover of Hong Kong, there is no doubt President Xi Jinping has his eyes set on Taiwan, the South China Sea, and beyond. Rep. Crenshaw recognizes the threat and is doing all he can to beat back a rising China.

Rep. Dan Crenshaw has also been a strong voice for liberty and freedom in these tumultuous times. He released a book, *Fortitude*, in April of 2020, started his own podcast, *We Hold These Truths with Dan Crenshaw*.

Rep. Dan Crenshaw is just getting started in politics, but he has a bright future ahead of him. Washington and the U.S. can only benefit from having people like Rep. Crenshaw on Capitol Hill.

*This is not an endorsement for or against Dan Crenshaw*