

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY MASTER SERGEANT (MSG) COATER BERNARD DEBOSE

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of fallen Mississippi soldier Army Master Sergeant (MSG) Coater Bernard DeBose. MSG DeBose gave his life while in service to our great nation on August 19, 2012, during Operation Enduring Freedom. MSG DeBose died in Spin Boldak, Afghanistan, of wounds he received from small arms fire while conducting security force assistance operations. MSG DeBose was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 351st Infantry Regiment, 158th Infantry Brigade, First Army Division East, Camp Shelby, Mississippi. MSG DeBose was awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart medals.

According to the Associated Press, MSG DeBose, a State Line, Mississippi native, joined the Alabama National Guard in May 1983. He transferred to the Army Reserves in 2008. He was deployed in April 2004 to Afghanistan, where he served as a communications specialist. It was his job to train Afghan police in the Kandahar region.

There have been many memorials posted in MSG DeBose's honor on Legacy.com, including one that appeared on September 1, 2012 from Master Sergeant (MSG) Maranda McCorvey. "As I sign this guest book, no words can explain the loss of a true soldier," MSG McCorvey said. "He was a leader, mentor, motivator, and trainer to many lives in and out of the uniform."

Rebecca Lewis of Moss Point wrote, "May God continue to watch over you and your family at this time," Mrs. Lewis said. "Deacon DeBose will certainly be missed by all of us including his Greater First Baptist Church in Escatawpa, Mississippi, under the leadership of Richard Young. Deacon DeBose was a great man and touched many hearts."

Christopher DeBose, MSG DeBose's son, wrote about the pain of losing his father in August 30, 2012. "I pray that there is a military up in heaven," Christopher said. "I know Master Sergeant DeBose would be in charge of something. No matter what it is, I'm sure God will trust you with any task because he knows you will get it done."

Caronica DeBose-Jackson, MSG DeBose's daughter, paid tribute to her father in a September 6, 2012 post. "I hear your voice telling me to keep moving and live life to the fullest," Caronica said. "I will go on because that's what you would want. I will honor your life and legacy forever."

MSG DeBose is survived by his wife, Juanita, his three sons, Latravis DeBose, Christopher DeBose, and Broderick DeBose; and two daughters, Caronica DeBose-Jackson, and Nekeshia Raybon.

MSG DeBose demonstrated the qualities of an American hero. His 27 years of military service will always be remembered.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY FIRST SERGEANT (1SG) SEVERIN W. SUMMERS III

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Army First Sergeant (1SG) Severin W. Summers who died while defending our great nation on August 2, 2009, during Operation Enduring Freedom. 1SG Summers died from injuries he suffered when insurgents attacked his vehicle with an improvised explosive device in Qole Gerdar, Afghanistan. Capt. Ronald G. Luce Jr. and Sgt. 1st Class Alejandro Granado III were also killed. 1SG Summers was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group (Airborne), headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi.

1SG Summers, a native of Benton, Mississippi, graduated from Christian Life Academy in 1984 and attended Louisiana State University. He enlisted in the Mississippi National Guard in 1989.

1SG Summers awards and decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Noncommissioned Officers Professional Development Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, and the Armed Forces Medal. He also earned the Parachutist Badge, the Air Assault Badge, the Pathfinder Badge, the Scuba Diver Badge, the Military Free Fall Badge and the Ranger and Special Forces tabs.

1SG Summers is survived by his wife, Tammy; his three daughters, Jessica, Shelby and Sarah; and his parents, Severin and Charlene Summers.

1SG Summers will always be remembered for his courage and bravery. He sacrificed his life to protect to protect the freedoms we all enjoy.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY SPECIALIST (SPC) LARRY KENYATTA BROWN

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Army Specialist (SPC) Larry Kenyatta Brown who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation April 5, 2003, during Operation Iraqi Freedom III. SPC Brown was mortally wounded during a combat mission to liberate the Iraqi city of Karbala. SPC Brown was assigned to C Company, 1st Battalion, 414 Infantry Regiment, Fort Riley, Kansas.

SPC Brown, a Jackson native, attended Bailey Magnet High School where he was a track and basketball athlete. His high school principal, Dorothy Terry, said SPC Brown was a serious young man who was kind. Terry said SPC Brown also had a great sense of humor.

During the funeral held at Blacks Chapel Baptist Church, Brigadier General Frank Helmick described SPC Brown's devotion to our nation. "Larry Brown displayed the intensive fortitude to fight and complete the mission even though it meant giving his life for our country."

Hundreds of people came to the funeral including twenty-nine soldiers from Fort Riley. Ten soldiers from Fort Polk, Louisiana carried Brown's coffin.

SPC Brown's bravery and courage in service to our nation will always be remembered.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER MARINE STAFF SERGEANT (SSGT) JASON AARON ROGERS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Marine Staff Sergeant (SSgt) Jason Aaron Rogers who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our great nation on April 7, 2011. SSgt Rogers was killed in Northern Helmand Province, Afghanistan when an improvised explosive device detonated while he was clearing a path for wounded marines in a live mine field during combat operations. He was assigned to the 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force out of Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

SSgt Rogers was born on April 9, 1982, in Jackson, MS. He graduated from Brandon High School in 2000. Shortly after September 11, 2001, SSgt Rogers joined the Marine Corps, where he served eight years. He was deployed on six overseas assignments, five of which were combat deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan. He was 28 years old at the time of his death.

SSgt Rogers' mother, Jenny Smith, recently said, "I'm extremely proud. He was proud to serve our country. He had a calling to offer his life for friends and family. He loved America. Every year, we hold the Annual Running for Jason 5K Run/Walk in Brandon to honor his service."

Mayor Tim Coulter of Brandon, Mississippi said, "We are saddened by the death of one of our hometown heroes, Jason Rogers, a brave man of character. He will be missed by our city and our hearts and prayers are with his family at this time."

Brandon Winfield, a childhood friend of SSgt Rogers said, "The loss of Jason Rogers is going to make this world an emptier and lonelier and colder place. I could write a War and Peace sized story of the kind of person he was. Some people have it; the room just seemed to be dizzier and brighter with him in it."

SSgt Rogers is survived by wife Angela Rita Marie Rogers. He is also survived by his parents, Jennifer and William Smith, and Liz and Tracy Aaron Rogers.