
ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: the life and military service of Specialist Benjamin A. Smith.

Whereas, Specialist Benjamin A. Smith, of Hudson, Wisconsin, was born on July 5, 1984, and died on November 2, 2005, after an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle outside of Baghdad, Iraq; and

Whereas, Spc. Smith served with honor and distinction as a member of the army's 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, based in Fort Campbell, Kentucky; and

Whereas, Spc. Smith was a dedicated member of the Minnesota wing of the civil air patrol in Lake Elmo while attending Hudson High School, graduating in 2002; and

Whereas, he valued time with his family: his parents, James and Lenore; his brother, Orion; his sister, Brianna; his grandparents, uncles, aunts, and cousins; and

Whereas, Spc. Smith was devoted to protecting his country, evidenced by his steadfast determination to serve in the Iraq War; and

Whereas, Spc. Smith believed in the worthy cause of bringing freedom to the Iraqi people, and was anxious to return to Iraq for his 2nd tour of duty; and

Whereas, he enjoyed karate as a child and later became interested in off-road activities, hunting, and playing music; and

Whereas, he was known for his hard-working attitude while working as a welder at Empire Bucket, Inc., as well as showing his gentle and caring side as a dog handler at the old St. Croix Meadows greyhound park; and

Whereas, Spc. Smith will always be remembered for his patriotism, adventurous spirit, and love for his family and friends; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That that the members of the Wisconsin legislature, on behalf of a grateful state, honor Specialist Benjamin A. Smith for his noble service to our country and extend their condolences to his family and friends; and, be it further

Resolved, That the senate chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint resolution to Specialist Smith's parents, James and Lenore Smith, to his brother, Orion, to his sister, Brianna, to his paternal grandparents, Joyce Smith and Brian and Ann Smith, and to his maternal grandparents, Henry and Brenda Quandt.

Representative John G. Gard
Speaker of the Assembly

Senator Alan J. Lasee
President of the Senate

Date

Robert J. Marchant
Senate Chief Clerk