



## 2007 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 42

1       **Relating to:** the life and service of Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek of the Wisconsin Army  
2           National Guard.

3           Whereas, Wisconsin Army National Guard Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek was born  
4           June 1, 1986, in Alliance, Nebraska, and died from wounds received when a roadside  
5           bomb exploded near the vehicle on which Sergeant Jopek was serving as a gunner  
6           in convoy security August 2, 2006, near Tikrit, Iraq; and

7           Whereas Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek, a member of Troop E, 105th Cavalry  
8           Regiment, Merrill, Wisconsin, was assigned to Wisconsin Army National Guard  
9           Company A, 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry Regiment, 32nd Infantry Brigade (Light)  
10          (Separate), Waupun, Wisconsin, proudly and faithfully served the people of  
11          Wisconsin and the United States with distinction and honor in support of Operation  
12          Iraqi Freedom; and

13          Whereas, Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek loved to play basketball, soccer, golf, and  
14          football and was a 2004 graduate of Merrill High School. He also enjoyed music,

1 monster trucks, airplanes, and his 1966 Chevrolet pickup truck. Ryan was an avid  
2 Chicago Bears fan and modeled his life after his childhood hero, Walter Payton; and

3       Whereas, Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek received many awards and decorations,  
4 including the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal,  
5 the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War  
6 on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the  
7 Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Mobilization Device, the Army Overseas Service  
8 Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, and the Combat Action Badge; and

9       Whereas Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek loved his family and many friends and is  
10 survived by his mother, Tracy Jopek of Merrill; his father, Staff Sergeant Brian  
11 Jopek, Wisconsin Army National Guard, of Antigo; his sister and his brother, Jessica  
12 and Steven Jopek of Merrill; his maternal grandparents, Carrie and Donald Smith  
13 of Bayard, Nebraska; his paternal grandparents, Peg and Joseph Jopek of Antigo;  
14 and many aunts, uncles, and cousins; and

15       Whereas, Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek made the ultimate sacrifice for his country  
16 while advancing the cause of freedom for the Iraqi people and will always be  
17 remembered for his loyalty and duty and will never be forgotten; and

18       Whereas, Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek was laid to rest on August 14, 2006, at the  
19 Merrill Memorial Park Cemetery in Merrill, Wisconsin; now, therefore, be it

20       ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the members of the  
21 Wisconsin state legislature commend the remarkable life of Wisconsin Army  
22 National Guard Sergeant Ryan D. Jopek, express their sorrow at his death, and  
23 extend their condolences to his family and friends; and be it further

24       ***Resolved, That*** the senate chief clerk shall transmit a copy of this joint  
25 resolution to Sergeant Jopek's mother, Tracy Jopek of Merrill; father, Staff Sergeant

1 Brian Jopek of Antigo; sister and brother Jessica and Steven Jopek of Merrill; and  
2 grandparents Carrie and Donald Smith of Bayard, Nebraska, and Peg and Joseph  
3 Jopek of Antigo.

4 (END)