

To whom it may concern;

I am writing on behalf of the Sisson family in favor of Bill SB5 to establish a portion of HWY 69 as the 2LT Justin Lee Sisson Memorial Highway. I went to school with Justin at Pleasant Ridge Middle School and Blue Valley West High School. The Sisson's moved after we graduated high school, but to Justin; Kansas was always home. I could write story upon story about the amazing friendship I was blessed with and the more amazing man he grew up to be or I could describe his love for driving and how fitting it would be to have a highway in his memory. However, none of that truly touches on why this portion of the highway should be named in his honor.

The reason this bill should pass speaks more to his chosen career and the sacrifices he made. At 18 years old he joined ROTC and at 19 he decided to enlist in the Reserves. At 20 years old he voluntarily joined his unit on his first deployment taking a year off of college because he felt it was his duty to be with his men. Upon returning to college, he graduated and continued to receive honors as he went through Sapper School and became a Ranger. He deployed again and took on more leadership within his unit when the situation presented itself and he saw a need he could fill. While I didn't know him as a soldier, I knew him as a man and can only imagine the leadership he provided in his short time deployed on his 2nd tour. He sacrificed his life at 23 because he truly believed it was his duty to protect this country as a member of the military. While I miss him more than I can describe, I know that he died in a way he would have been proud and honored. The outreach from the Blue Valley community has amazed me continually proving that while I have lost a best friend, the community has lost a hero. Naming the highway in his honor is a beautiful reminder of the life he lived and the values he held, the values that made him a hero in our community.

Sincerely,

Sarah Morefield