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Kansas House Committee on Transportation

When you tell someone that you have never met that you are sorry for the loss of their loved one who served in the United States Armed Forces in a foreign country protecting our nation is just not enough. No one can prepare for such a loss.

When a Soldier dies it is never easy for anyone. All young men and women should be allowed to grow old, enjoy their dreams of marrying their Sweetheart, raising their children and out living their parents. But our world is full of dangers and a Soldier is someone that volunteers to protect their nation and our way of life.

A Soldier who has paid the ultimate sacrifice is entitled to more than "sorry for you loss". There is nothing that eases pain but time, and only after great lengths of time has passed do we start to feel a little more normal again, but never the same.

What we can do is thank the parents of this Soldier for raising such a person! A person who willingly stepped up to the line to keep others from having to face the world dangers. A Soldier who didn't want to die, but was willing to, for what they believed was right. For the loss of such a person, we are all sorry.

One of the Gold Star Families desire is that their Soldier is never forgotten. Dedicating a bridge in the memory of a Fallen Soldier is one way to continue to honor that Soldier for their sacrifice but also recognizes all Soldiers sacrifice.

There is a verse in the Bible which reads: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13) On that same note, the brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice to preserve liberty for all Americans must never be forgotten.

We ask for your support in the Naming and Dedication of the "SGT Tyler A Juden Memorial Bridge." to continue to honor this Soldier and not only help the family to heal but also their Community, this State and our Great Nation.

Respectfully,



Keeley and Randy Frank

American Gold Star Parents of
"Sgt. Kevin A. Gilbertson"

