



HR0407

LRB100 12717 MST 26207 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, United States Army Ranger Sergeant Joshua P. Rodgers of Bloomington was killed in action at the age of 22 on April 27, 2017 in Nangarhar Province during a joint operation with Afghan forces; and

3

4

5

6

WHEREAS, Sgt. Rodgers was assigned to Company C, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, and stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia; he was on his third deployment to Afghanistan; and

7

8

9

WHEREAS, Sgt. Rodgers was born in Bloomington to Kevin and Vonda Coulter Rodgers on August 22, 1994; he attended Northpoint Elementary School, Kingsley Junior High School, and Normal Community High School; and

10

11

12

13

WHEREAS, After graduating from high school in May of 2013, Sgt. Rodgers enlisted in the United States Army in order to serve his country; he completed One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning as an infantryman and following completion of the Basic Airborne Course, he was assigned to the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program 1 (RASP 1), also at Fort Benning; he graduated from RASP 1 and was then assigned to 2nd Platoon, C Company, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, where he served as a machine gunner, light machine gunner, gun team leader, and ranger fire team leader; and

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

1           WHEREAS, Sgt. Rodgers was deployed three times to  
2 Afghanistan; he earned the coveted Ranger Tab, the Parachutist  
3 Badge, and the Marksmanship Qualification Badge Expert-Rifle;  
4 he was awarded the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Good  
5 Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the  
6 Afghanistan Campaign Medal with two Campaign Stars, the Global  
7 War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Non-Commissioned Officer  
8 Professional Development Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, and  
9 the NATO Medal; posthumously, he was awarded the Purple Heart  
10 and the Bronze Star Medal with Valor; and

11           WHEREAS, Sgt. Rodgers loved his country, his family and  
12 friends, the military, and especially his fellow Rangers and  
13 regiment; he knew his purpose in life and was living out his  
14 dream; and

15           WHEREAS, Sgt. Rodgers was an amazing friend with a big  
16 heart; through hard work and determination he continually led  
17 by example and made everyone around him proud; his generosity  
18 was unwavering and if you needed anything from him he was  
19 always there; and

20           WHEREAS, Sgt. Rodgers was preceded in death by his  
21 grandfather, Mike Rodgers; and

1           WHEREAS, Sgt. Rodgers is survived by his parents, Kevin and  
2 Vonda Rodgers; his sisters, Emily Rodgers and Hannah Rodgers  
3 (Nathan Lloilo); his brother, Ashton Rodgers; his niece,  
4 Victoria Rodgers; his grandparents, Russ and Diana Coulter and  
5 Christine Rodgers; his aunts, uncles, and cousins, Duane,  
6 Trish, Makayla, and Delanie Fisher, Joe and Carrie, Tyler,  
7 Cecil, and Charlie Rodgers, and Dan, Marcie, and Charlotte  
8 Rodgers; and

9           WHEREAS, Every person who honorably serves in the military  
10 knows and accepts great personal risk, and chooses to serve  
11 anyway; Sgt. Rodgers was, and forever will be, a warrior:  
12 tenacious, humble, determined, and supportive; he was a true  
13 inspiration to everyone who knew him; therefore, be it

14           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
15 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
16 honor the life and sacrifice of United States Army Ranger  
17 Sergeant Joshua P. Rodgers, and that we offer to his family and  
18 friends our condolences and our heartfelt gratitude for his  
19 service to our country; and be it further

20           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
21 presented to the family of Sgt. Rodgers as a symbol of our  
22 deepest sympathy and respect.