

Sgt. Bruce Dale Jones' Memorial
Evergreen Alabama, Rabb Cemetery
October 5, 2012

Remarks by: James Windham

I wish to express my deepest and most sincere thanks to the Vietnam Security Police Association for allowing me to be a part of this welcome home/memorial service for Bruce Dale Jones, a true fallen hero. It has been and is my pleasure to be allowed a part in this life celebration.

The city of Evergreen lies just a few miles south of here. It has a history of being a place where the people are friendly and believe in supporting friends and neighbors, a place rich with a heritage of service to this great country and where they proudly support those who place themselves in dangers way to protect the rights we so richly enjoy.

It is my pleasure to introduce to you a person I've known so many years, a person I graduated from school with and a person I'm very proud to call my friend...a person working hard to bring Evergreen forward and who is here today to acknowledge just how much Evergreen appreciates Bruce Dale Jones.

With no further ado, ladies and gentlemen, I present you the Honorable Mayor of Evergreen, Pete Wolff III.

[After Mayor Wolff's words and reading of Proclamation for "Sgt. James Bruce Jones Day"]

Thank you Mayor Wolff for that proclamation and kind words.

[Recognition for] Several people and businesses in our area pitched in to help make this a memorial day to honor the memory of Sgt. Jones, I would like to take a moment to thank them for their help, support and participation:

- First and foremost, I wish to thank SGM Ralph Crysell and his JROTC color guard. This group of fine young men and women constantly stand ready to help in any way to honor our military, active or veterans.
- Next a special thanks to Sherrie Gladwell, owner of Cherries Blossoms and Blooms. She designed and made the memorial wreath that will be placed today.
- David Leach, Leach Monument Company is responsible for the pillow stone at the foot of Bruce's grave, thank you David, and now is a good time to let you all know the VSPA does up hold the statement they make "We Take Care Of Our Own." I am not at liberty to tell you who but one of the members of this group took care of all the cost associated with this monument. A true statement of love and care.
- As you may notice, we have a group of motorcycle riders here. It gives me immense pleasure to inform you they are the Patriot Guard Riders, members of a

nationwide organization making it their business to honor our military members. It gives me even more pleasure to announce that today's ride captain is a personal friend going back to school days. I wish thank each and every rider and a special thanks to ride captain Phillip Brown.

- The Conecuh County Sheriff's department has done their typical outstanding response to assist in escort and traffic control today. A special thanks to Sheriff Edwin Booker and his deputies.
- Last but not least, I want to thank my fellow DAV members for their help and assistance in today's ceremony with a special thank you to Reverend Michael Jackson for his help.

Recognize any Sgt. Jones relatives and schoolmates present:

I would like to ask [for] any of Sgt. Jones relatives in attendance to please step forward.

[Also] Are there any schoolmates of Sgt. Jones here? Please identify yourselves.

Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you for being here to help in making this a special day for Bruce Dale Jones memory.

James Windham

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