

Fallen Hero and Friend

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Jonathan "Kyle" Price
April 23, 1986
to
January 13, 2006

During my 4 ½ year affiliation with the Young Marines program, I have had contact with some of the most outstanding people. Kyle was one of those outstanding people, and I was privileged to get to know him during a week-long trip to our nation's capital with seven other Young Marines. Kyle talked about how much he wanted to serve our country in our beloved Corps, and how he believed that we need to serve our communities too. Kyle served his community as a Heartland Young Marine and an Eagle Scout before he became a Marine.

It was a very sad day when I received the call from YMGYSGT Jeff Milner (with the Heartland Young Marines) informing me that Kyle had been killed while serving as a Marine in Iraq on January 13th.

His squad was guarding a team of engineers when they came under attack. He performed his duty with courage and tenacity by stepping in between the engineers and the attackers.

My family and I attended our dear friend's visitation and funeral services in his hometown of Woodlawn. This is a small southern Illinois town with a population of about 600. I was totally humbled by the outpouring of community support and respect shown for Kyle and his family. According to Mount Vernon Register News approximately 1,200 people attended the visitation and approximately 800 attended his funeral.

About a week before Kyle died, he sent a poem to Jeff and in this poem it talked about a Marine dying for country. There was a part of the poem that all Marines know: "If the Army and the Navy ever look on Heaven's scenes; They will find the streets are guarded by **UNITED STATES MARINES.**"

Kyle was on guard duty when he died, and now he has been assigned the Ultimate Guard Duty! Kyle shall be missed, but he lived the way he believed that we all should; serving ones country and his God in the Marine Corps!

Semper FI,