



Today we remember those man and women who gave their life in the services of the United States. We especially remember those from our area who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

1st Lt. Jason Timmerman, 24, Tracy, died Feb. 21, 2005, in Baghdad, serving with C Company, 1st Battalion, 151st Field Artillery.

Sgt. Brent W. Koch, 22 of Morgan who died June 16, 2006 in Ad Diwaniyah, Iraq, serving with E company, 2nd Combined Arms Battalion of the 135th Infantry.

Sgt. Kyle R. Miller, 19 of Bird Island and Willmar, died June 29, 2006 in Balad Iraq, serving with the 1st Battalion 125th Field Artillery.

Sgt. Joshua Schmit, 26, of Willmar, died April 14, 2007, in Fallujah, Iraq, serving with the 1451st Transportation Company, U.S. Army;

Spc. James Wertish, 20, of Olivia, died July 16, 2009, in Basrah, Iraq, serving with the 34th Military Police Company of the 34th Infantry Division;

Sgt. Matthew Ryan Kahler, 29, Granite Falls, died Jan. 26, 2008, in Waygul, Afghanistan, while serving with 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry, U.S. Army.

Pfc. Ryane G. Clark, 22, of New London, died Oct. 4, 2010, in Shekhabad, Afghanistan, serving with the 27th Combat Engineer Battalion (Airborne), 20th Combat Engineer Brigade, U.S. Army;

The freedoms we, as Americans, enjoy today were earned and protected by these and others who have given their lives. In respect and remembrance, we encourage all of you to attend a Memorial Day service Monday in your community. You may also join the National Moment of Remembrance at 3 p.m. local time Monday.