

## NEWS

# Linda May: Remember veterans on Memorial Day

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Ultimate sacrifice

Jeffrey Rector, 60, is a Vietnam vet and master sergeant with the Army Reserves in Fraser who heads up a funeral detail of volunteers, mostly veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts, that does military honors at the funerals of veterans at the family's request.

The honor guard and the Patriot Guard Riders met the plane carrying the body of Monroe resident Sgt. Michael Ingram Jr. on a cold, rainy day at Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

Ingram was killed in action on April 17, 2010, while serving in Afghanistan. A Keith Famie film about Ingram called "One Soldier's Story" premieres June 14 at Emagine Theatre in Canton and introduces a charity developed in Ingram's honor.

In the film, Rector, the U.S. Army Reserve casualty assistance coordinator, describes the bravery and fortitude of military personnel serving overseas.

The film portrays Ingram's decision to join the Army, the ultimate sacrifice he made and the honors he received when his remains were returned home. The film offers a look at the emotional journey of a family facing the loss of a child.

The film introduces Mikie's Minutes, created by the Ingram family. Mikie's Minutes is a division of Others First, a 501(c)3 tax-deductible nonprofit organization that provides free calling cards to members of the U.S. armed forces. Special Forces delivered the first batch of 12,000 minutes to U.S. Army soldiers serving in Afghanistan and the delivery was captured for the documentary.

Singer-songwriter Steve Pichan will perform a song he wrote called “Mikie’s Minutes” and the VFW Department of the Michigan Honor Guard will post the colors (flags.)

Doors open for “One Soldier’s Story” at 6:30 p.m. The \$20 ticket donation goes to Mikie’s Minutes. For more information, see <http://vprod.com/onesoldiersstory.html> or [www.mikiesminutes.com](http://www.mikiesminutes.com) or call (248) 869--0096.

<http://www.macombdaily.com/articles/2011/05/28/news/doc4de05d02e9091718147320.txt?viewmode=fullstory>