

CHAPTER 115**(SJR 39)**

A JOINT RESOLUTION naming "The Sergeant Beverly 'Verly' Miller Memorial Bridge" in Greenup County.

We pause in silent reverence to pay homage to Beverly "Verly" Miller, our native son felled in the heat of battle fighting for his beloved country.

WHEREAS, Beverly "Verly" Miller was born on October 7, 1921, the son of Lindsey and Vada Potter Miller; and

WHEREAS, Beverly "Verly" Miller was raised on his family's farm located on Kentucky Route 693 at the intersection with White Oak Road in Russell, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, a true patriot, Beverly "Verly" Miller was a sergeant in the 329th Regiment of the 83rd Infantry Division during World War II; and

WHEREAS, upon landing off Omaha Beach on the seventeenth day after D Day, the 83rd relieved the 101st Airborne Division at Carentan where the Division was assigned to the U.S. First Army; and

WHEREAS, the Carentan sector was heavily defended by elite Nazi SS, Panzer, and paratroops; however the 83rd Infantry Division was known throughout the European Theater of Operations for their courage, tenacity, and fortitude; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Beverly "Verly" Miller and his fellow troops valiantly broke through German defensives that the enemy had been fortifying in Carentan for four years; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Beverly "Verly" Miller and the 83rd was assigned to General George Patton's Third Army following Carentan to participate in the Brittany Campaign; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Beverly "Verly" Miller and the 83rd Infantry Division protected the right flank of Patton's Army as it moved across France to the north bank of the Loire River, a distance of 200 miles; and

WHEREAS, even though he was only twenty-three years old, Sergeant Beverly "Verly" Miller's bravery carried him through fierce battles in Luxembourg, as well as the Hurtgen Forest west of Duren, Germany; and

WHEREAS, it was during heavy fighting in attacks on the town of Gurzenich and Birgel that Sergeant Beverly "Verly" Miller made the ultimate sacrifice for his family and homeland; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Beverly "Verly" Miller was killed on December 15, 1944, one day before the Battle of the Bulge began in the Ardennes; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Beverly "Verly" Miller's unselfish actions resulted in his being awarded two Purple Hearts before his death on that distant battlefield so long ago;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. The members of the General Assembly, both individually and collectively, are humbled to posthumously honor Sergeant Beverly "Verly" Miller for his gallantry and his sacrifice so that freedom would forever reign over the United States of America.

Section 2. The General Assembly proclaims Sergeant Beverly "Verly" Miller to be an outstanding citizen, a native son whose life should forever serve as a role model for all Kentuckians.

Section 3. The Transportation Cabinet is directed to name bridge number B00073 (drawing number 22991) located at milepoint 4.602 over White Oak Creek on Kentucky Route 693 in Greenup County "The Beverly 'Verly' Miller Memorial Bridge."

Section 4. The Transportation Cabinet is directed to erect signs within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Resolution on the approaches to bridge number B00073 (drawing number 22991) located at milepoint 4.602 over White Oak Creek on Kentucky Route 693 in Greenup County that read "The Beverly 'Verly' Miller Memorial Bridge."

Section 5. The staff of the Legislative Research Commission shall, upon its passage, transmit a copy of this Resolution to the sisters of Sergeant Beverly "Verly" Miller: Ms. Imogene Kimberlain, 1019 Chippewa Road, Ashland, KY 41102; Ms. Wanda Caudill, 316 Seaton Drive, Russell, KY 41169; and Ms. Darlene Hayes, Route 1, Box 206, Flatwoods, KY 41139; as well as to his nephew Mr. Donald E. Harris, 936 Newman Drive, Worthington, KY 41183.

Approved March 28, 2002