

Submitter: Marek Dinges
On Behalf Of: Kenny
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I knew Kenny in high school. He was a great guy and friend to everyone that knew him. We lost touch when he switched schools. After I joined the Oregon army national guard I was on orders at Camp Rilea and ran into this kid from my town(Kenny) I was like you know so and so he was yea and he had this fat long haired friend. Well that friend was me. We hung out the whole time I was on orders there. We would go into seaside and hang out at night. This was about the time house of a thousand corpses came out. We went into a shirt shop and he got one made with a quote from the movie on it, I got a sweatshirt made. My buddy came down one weekend and I was like you remember Kenny he was like yes. Kenny was working at billeting at the time so we went down there to see him and catch up. That was the last time we saw him. Later that summer I believe is when I Hurd that he was killed. I called our buddy to brake the news. He was at school on the east coast at the time and hadn't heard yet. I used to have the paper that the article was in. Since then I have worn a black KIA bracelet to never forget. I have gone through two I am on my third now. The last picture I have of Kenny is out front of the billeting office on Camp Rilea. Every year while I still lived in Oregon I would visit his grave on memorial Day. There would always be beer or soda, coins or dip on his head stone. Since moving my father goes and see him every year. By the amount of tokens left you can tell he is loved and missed. When going to the military department in Salem Oregon I would always stop and say hi to his memorial they have there. There used to be a plaque in the billeting office when I worked there I don't know if it's still there now. Everybody that knew Kenny still talks about him and has never forgotten about him. We we reminisce about him talk about how he was talk like he's still here with us. His death was a tragic loss to his friends, family, community and the Oregon army national guard. Memorializing Kenny would represent the utmost respect for our fallen soldier brother and family member. Please let this go to the next step don't let our fallen comrad be forgotten don't let our friend be forgotten don't let our brother be forgotten.