

Memorial Day: Community to honor fallen soldier



By Tony Geftos | Posted: Fri 12:52 PM, May 24, 2019

DUNDEE, Mich. (WTVG) -- You've heard all gave some, some gave all.

Sergeant Christopher Messer is one who gave all.

"He was a good family man," describes his sister, Shawna Vore. "Loved his country, loved God, loved his family. Yeah, he was an awesome person."

Sergeant Messer grew up near Ida and Dundee, Michigan. He enlisted in the army after 9-11.

In 2006, during his second tour in Iraq, a roadside bomb ended his life at the age of 27.

"We miss him. He went way too young," adds Vore.

Vore keeps pictures of her brother inside Cella-Mar Studio of Hair Design, where she works as a stylist in Dundee. She also shares stories about Chris with his daughter who attends Dundee High School. She was two years old when her father died.

"I mean, he's gonna be remembered forever, not just as a soldier, but cause he was such an awesome person," says Vore.

When you look out the window of Cella-Mar, you can see the memorial "Lest We Forget - The Price of Freedom" in the center of Dundee. A plaque here includes the name of Sgt. Messer, serving as a permanent reminder of his sacrifice.

However, 2019 will be a special year for friends and family of Sgt. Messer.

This year, Dundee Veterans will salute Sgt. Messer as a tribute during the Memorial Day service at Wolverine Park. It's set to take place at 10:00 AM Monday, May 27, 2019, immediately following the parade through town.

"Memorial Day's always, you know, bittersweet, 'cause we all get together and come together as a family and remember him," says Vore.

In 2019, her brother's impact on his community and his country will be front and center.

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