

THIS WAS TAKEN FROM THE HEARSE. IT WAS A FRIEND OF A FRIEND. GOD BLESS AMERICA .

Funeral in Tennessee

In Tennessee we really do pull off the road and stop for funerals... nobody moves until the last car has gone by.

What follows is a message from Vicki Pierce about her nephew James' funeral, who was killed while serving his country in Iraq !

However, the most incredible thing was what happened following the service on the way to the cemetery. We went to our cars and drove to the cemetery escorted by at least 10 police cars with lights flashing and some other emergency vehicles, with Tennessee police handling traffic. Everyone on the road who was not in the procession, pulled over, got out of their cars, and stood silently & respectfully, some put their hands over their hearts..

When we turned off the highway suddenly there were teenage boys along both sides of the street about every 20 feet or so, all holding large American flags on long flag poles, and again with their hands on their hearts. We thought at first it was the Boy Scouts or 4 H club or something, but it continued for two and a half miles. Hundreds of young people, standing silently on the side of the road with flags. At one point we passed an elementary school, and all the children were outside, shoulder to shoulder holding flags kindergartners, handicapped, teachers, staff, everyone. Some held signs of love and support. Then came teenage girls; and younger boys, all holding flags. Then adults.. Then families. All standing silently on the side of the road. No one spoke, not even the very young children.

The military presence, at least two generals, a fist full of colonels, and representatives from every branch of the service, plus the color guard who attended James, and some who served with him, was very impressive and respectful, but the love and pride from this community who had lost one of their own was the most amazing thing I've ever been privileged to witness!

I've attached some pictures, some are blurry (we were moving), but you can get a small idea of what this was like.













