

In 2004 our Wolverine Lake Police Chief John Ellsworth lost his son, Marine LCpl Justin Ellsworth, when he was killed heroically saving the lives of others while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom II. Since then, John, his wife Debbie and daughter Jessica have devoted their lives to supporting other Gold Star families and those who are serving our Country in the armed forces through their organization, Military Families United.

The City of Wixom, the Wixom Historical Society and the Wixom VFW will be honoring Wixom Fallen Hero LCpl Justin Ellsworth in a ceremony Sunday, May 28, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. when they unveil a memorial plaque next to Wixom City Hall on Pontiac Trail. Immediately following the ceremony will be a reception hosted by the Wolverine Lake community at the Wixom City Hall. Everyone is welcome!

For this event, the Wixom Historical Society is conducting a card campaign, trying to get many letters and cards of support and thanks to the Ellsworth family in Justin's memory. They will present the cards to the Ellsworths in a "Basket of Love" at the ceremony. Their goal is to get a large quantity of cards, so in addition to cards from individuals, members of organizations, clubs, kids' athletic teams, scouts, dance groups and social clubs can have all their members sign a card. Handmade cards would be wonderful as well. And if you're not sure what to say, the Historical Society has suggested: "Thank you for our freedom", "We will never forget", "Our hometown hero", "With love from your friends in \_\_\_\_\_".

If you would like to participate in the card campaign you may drop off a card at the Wixom City Hall Clerk's office and mark the envelope: Basket of Love Honoring Justin Ellsworth. You may also mail a card to Wixom Historical Society, 49045 Pontiac Trail, Wixom 48393 and mark the envelope: Basket of Love Honoring Justin Ellsworth. For your convenience, you may also drop off a card at the Wolverine Lake Village Hall and please mark the envelope as mentioned above.

Our friends in Wixom are planning a very inspirational event to honor LCpl Justin Ellsworth and they invite everyone to attend the ceremony and reception to support the Ellsworth family.