

Services for Staff Sgt. Justice held Wednesday

MANILLA -- Funeral services for Iowa National Guard Staff Sgt. James Justice, 32, Grimes, were held Wednesday, May 4 at 2 p.m. at the IKM-Manning High School gymnasium.

Justice was killed by enemy small arms fire during combat operations Saturday, April 23 in Kapisa Province, Afghanistan at approximately 10 a.m. local Afghanistan time.

Also wounded in the attack was Spc. Zachary Durham, 21, Des Moines. Both soldiers were assigned to Troop A, 1st Squadron, 113th Cavalry, Camp Dodge, Johnston.

The attack happened during rescue operations of a U.S. Army OH-58 helicopter crew who were injured when their aircraft made a hard landing in Alah Say

District, Kapisa Province, Afghanistan. Justice and Durham responded to the scene as members of a Quick Reaction Force and came under fire from enemy forces at the crash site.

Justice died at the scene and Durham was evacuated to Craig Joint Theater Hospital, Bagr Air Field, for medical treatment. The cause of the helicopter crash is unknown at this time and is under investigation.

Preceding services on Wednesday was a Tuesday visitation at the IKM-Manning Middle School gymnasium. Graveside service and burial will be conducted at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va. at a later date.

Justice *please see next page*



Paying tribute to fallen soldier

MANILLA -- People of Manilla turned out Tuesday to honor their hometown hero, James Justice, who was killed in Afghanistan last month. Above, the motorcade to the school with some of the people who line the streets.

At right, one of the many signs and flags in town. Below, the casket being brought into the school. (Photos by Kim Wegener)



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Justice *from front page*

Justice was born June 30, 1978 in Manning, grew up in Manilla, and graduated from IrwinKirkman-Manilla High School in 1997. While in high school he participated in football, baseball and track. Justice enlisted as an Infantryman in Company C, 1st Battalion, 168th Infantry, Iowa Army National Guard in September 1998 at Denison, Iowa and completed Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training at Ft. Benning, GA in May 1999. He previously deployed to Operation Desert Spring (Kuwait) in 2001, the Multinational Force Observer peacekeeping mission (Sinai Peninsula, Egypt) in 2003-2004, and Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2005-2006.

Prior to his mobilization, he was employed full-time by the Iowa National Guard at Camp Dodge, Johnston, Iowa. He loved

to spend time with his daughter and his dog, Kinnick. He could often be found tinkering around the house and cooking for his family. James was an avid Iowa Hawkeye and Minnesota Vikings football fan. In his spare time he liked to golf, hang-out with friends, and work on tractors with his dad.

He is survived by his wife, Amanda, and daughter, Caydence, of Grimes; his father and mother, Larry and Lillian Justice, brother Kenny Justice, sisters Denise Christensen and Christy (Kevin) Lingle, nieces Stephanie (Justin) Ahrenholtz, Jessica (Alisa) Lingle, Katie Lingle and Rebecca Lingle, all of Manilla; nephew Doug (Sarah) Ridgley and their children, Emirsann and Elliette, of Omaha, NE; parents-in-law Bill and Sue Sand, brother-in-law Bob Buckli, and grandparents-in-law Archie and Carol Sand, all of Eau Claire, WI; brother-in-law Tim (Kacee) Buckli of Omaha,

NE; sisters-in-law Amy (Clyde) Buckli-Loew of Chetek, WI, and Annie (Tony) Luer of Fall Creek, WI; his dog, Kinnick; and many other friends and family. Justice was preceded in death by his grandparents, Kenneth and Katherine Justice, and Maynard and Nora Gunlaugsson; brother-in-law Lyle Christensen; aunt and uncle Alta and Merlin Nulle; and his best buddy, his dog Kado.

