

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
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March 7, 2018

Councilmember Clayton H. Perry Councilmember, District 10 P.O. Box 839966 San Antonio, TX 78283-3966

Re: Naming of a Bridge to "SFC David James Todd, Jr."

Dear Councilmember Perry:

Attached is a copy of your request to name a bridge located between Oakline Drive and Old Trail Drive on Jones Maltsberger to "SFC David James Todd, Jr." As City Ordinance No. 2011-03-31-0239 (attached) stipulates, the request will be sent to the following individuals:

- Michael Shannon, Development Services Department Director
- Representative Appointed by District 10 Councilmember

Since the subject area is in District 10, it is necessary that your office appoint a Representative to sit on the committee. Per Ordinance No. 2011-03-31-0239, the committee should conduct a Public Hearing to discuss all issues pertaining to the request. Should you have any questions, please call me.

Sincerely,

eticia M. Vacek, TRMC/CMC/MMC

City Clerk

Attachments –Request from Councilmember Perry and Ordinance 2011-03-31-0239

cc: Roderick Sanchez, Assistant City Manager
Michael Shannon, Development Services Department Director
Mike Frisbie, Transportation and Capital Improvements

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

INTERDEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE SHEET

TO:

Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

FROM:

Councilman Clayton H. Perry, District 10

COPIES TO:

Mike Frisbie, Director, Transportation and Capital Improvements

SUBJECT:

Naming a Bridge Located Between Oakline Drive and Old Trail Drive

On Jones Maltsberger to "SFC David James Todd, Jr" Bridge

DATE:

March 5, 2018

At the request of the local organization, Bridges for the Fallen, and the Bridges's family, I am requesting to begin the public process to name the bridge located between Oakline Drive and Old Trail Drive on Jones Maltsberger to "SFC David James Todd, Jr." The purpose of naming the bridge would be to honor David Todd who served in United States Army and was killed in the line of duty in 2008.

David's family moved into the Burning Tree Subdivision in December 1980. His family would frequently go to McAllister Park because it was just a "skip and a hop" away using the Bridge which crosses over the Salado Creek, that separated the residential area and the park. There David played Little League, learned to ride his bike, and enjoyed watching the wildlife. As the years passed, David enlisted in the US Army, and when he came home on leave he would always make it a point to visit the park that held so many memories, crossing that beautiful bridge he loved. David treasured his community and was always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone in need. His family still lives in their home today and drives this bridge on a daily basis.

I fully support this request as it is the voice of the community. This change reflects the legacy and impact of soldier David Todd and his life of service to his community in D10 and to his country.

Clayton Perry

City Councilmember, District 10

Attachments: Letter from family

Dear Sir(s): Respectfully, this request is submitted to name the Bridge over Salado Creek on Jones-Maltsburger Road, near McAllister Park, for our Fallen Hero: "SFC David James Todd, Jr."

Our family moved into the Burning Tree Subdivision on December 1980. One of the interesting places our children enjoyed visiting near our home was McAllister Park which is off Jones-Maltsburger Road. It was just a "skip and a hop" away using the Bridge to McAllister Park, which crosses over the Salado Creek, that separated the residential area and the park. Many memories were made in McAllister Park, our son playing Little League, frequent trips to the park, riding his bicycle, walking on the nature trails, enjoying looking at the wild life found at the park, using the playground was a must and last but not least a place where our family attended Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday. It was a park that our children grew up visiting frequently. As the years passed our son enlisted in the US Army, when he came home on leave he would always make it a point to visit the park that held so many memories, crossing that beautiful bridge he loved. One of our fond and prideful memories is when our son came home on leave, before deploying to Iraq on 2003. He saw they were building a church not too far from the bridge and he asked the builder if he could lend them a hand. The builder was so pleased to have a volunteer that after a few days, he asked him if would like to become his Foreman. Our son, grateful for this kind gesture, told him he was getting ready to deploy in a few days and could not accept the offer. The builder told him "when you come back, look me up, you will have a job here".

Years later, when he was teaching ROTC at Tulane University, he would help the young college students in his charge to "bridge" the gap between student and Army Officer. To this day, we receive comments from his former Cadets praising his ability to teach them the Leadership necessary to become good Army officers. He not only stressed leadership but also introduced physical fitness with his Iron Man Competition Program. This program was hailed by the Cadets with open arms and great enthusiasm. This was the first program of its kind introduced at the Tulane University ROTC Program. In Honor of his Memory, a conference room at Tulane University was named for our son.

In Memory of our Son, SFC David James Todd, Jr. May 26, 1972 - August 20, 2008 US Army, OEF Purple Heart and Bronze Star Recipient

Our son was a soldier that every man wants to be, a father that every man hopes to be, and a friend who was admired and respected by all those who knew him, a true and honest human being that was always there for you. He's the definition of a true hero, never giving up until the mission was done, and never ever leaving a fellow soldier behind. That was proven in a fierce battle in Bala Morghab, Afghanistan August 20, 2008, when he came to the aid of 12 soldiers. He firmly believed in this motto: "no man left behind".

A soldier that was saved that day, writes "On 20 August 2008 American Soldiers were involved in a nine hour battle in which a twelve man patrol became beleaguered and in dire need of extraction from overwhelming Taliban forces. Sergeant First Class David J. Todd, organized a quick reaction force of American soldiers and came to the aid of his men. SFC Todd served as a gunner during the fight, and recovered his brothers through a barrage of small arms fire and rocket propelled grenade impacts. He was killed during the extraction of the patrol from the city of Joy-I-Khawaja just 3 kilometers south of Bala Morghab.

After the battle of 20 August 2008, the American flag grommets were severed from its halyards' never to be flown again and it was to be used to drape the body of our friend Sergeant First Class David J. Todd. However, this flag was remounted upon the pole to mark the base during a Taliban counter-attack upon the patrols return. It is because of David's sacrifice that the 12 men of the patrol survived. We will never forget David – our brother. He was a leader of men. David was committed to his men and moreover he loved his family and country. Often we would see him awake at sunrise talking to his love ones. He and the other fathers shared stories of their children and old memories of each of their childhood. One of our favorite memories of David is when his team stationed in Delaram, Afghanistan was preparing dinner. A young soldier attempted to grill steaks for the team, only to completely burn the first rack of steaks. David, pushed him aside and began to prepare the steaks, taunting him for his age and inexperience at the grill. It is a simple memory, but to his team, so was David. He was a proud son, loving brother, father, husband and friend. His leadership qualities are a continuing yardstick for other's to strive for ".

Our son was a fair leader, always pushing the guys just a little bit more than they thought they could handle, and he knew their potential. What a go getter, never did anyone think to say they were done or couldn't go on, in SFC Todd's platoon that just wouldn't fly. His troops will never forget his love for that darn cup of coffee! Even in the miserably hot, humid temperatures of Fort Polk, Iraq or Afghanistan you would never see him without a cup of java in his hand! (or on his desk) When K TRP was deployed to Iraq the request from our son was "send more coffee!" That we did, coffee, Rudy's BBQ sauce, and beef jerky, were his favorites! One of his friends stated: "He's a wonderful man and will be missed terribly. To Dave's fellow soldiers:

make SFC Todd proud. Go a little above and beyond, take charge; show a fellow soldier the "way" just as he did for you, give 110% every day, you know he wouldn't accept any less from you! Never forget the sacrifices he and other hero's like him have made for us, we should forever be thankful to them and their families. Thanks Dave for all the memories, laughs, and good times. Rest in peace my friend; your job here is done. Scouts out"!

Our son's passing is extremely painful; he was the older of two children. He and his sister, Stephanie were very close, even though the miles separated them, their love for each other followed them throughout their lives. People have said "time heals all wounds" we have a different outlook on something like this; we see that our lives have changed and it will be like this, forever. Holidays, birthdays, special occasion's etc., are so painful it is indescribable.

"No greater love is that of a soldier to lay down his life for his fellow man".

Mary and David James Todd, Sr Gold Star Family