

community

Trumpet from page 1: Walz's son to play taps for fallen father, veteran and musician

where his dad was laid to rest.

Taps can be played with a trumpet, but also a bugle, as back in the Civil War when it was first created.

Bugle call signaled end of day, lights out

The origins of taps, the distinctive bugle melody played at U.S. military funerals and memorials and as a lights-out signal to soldiers at night, date back to the American Civil War, according to the History Channel: "In July 1862, U.S. General Daniel Butterfield and his brigade were camped at Harrison's Landing, Virginia, recuperating after the Seven Days Battles near Richmond. Dissatisfied with the standard bugle call employed by the Army to indicate to troops it was time to go to sleep, and thinking the call should sound more melodious, Butterfield reworked an existing bugle call used to signal the end of the day."

Music brought father, son together

Ryan Walz and his father shared a love of music that spilled out all the time, including last year

when the two got together and shared the latest tracks they were listening to. The next time they got together the pair hopped on four-wheeler Jodi had bought, and they shared a hearty laugh after they fell off it. Ryan told him to pop a wheelie, and Jodi did. It's now a cherished memory.

"I heard once that a person dies twice," Ryan Walz said. "Once when you die, and the last time your name is spoken."

Ryan is convinced his father and his legacy will live on for generations between the memories people have of him helping others and all the digital music recordings that he's featured on.

Jodi Walz played trumpet in the U.S. Army Band and later in the Army Reserve Band while serving his country. As a member of the 451st Army Band, composed of select musicians from the Upper Midwest, he performed for American and international dignitaries and for countless people across the country.

He traveled the world and also saw combat during a tour of duty during the Gulf War as part of Operation Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia.

It was while he was in high school that he was selected to perform with

the U.S. Army Band at Orchestra Hall. The group from Bethesda, Maryland, opened his mind up to think big.

He went into the Army after graduating from Elk River High School in 1988, but not before he auditioned and was accepted into Army School of Music. He attended the School of Music in Virginia Beach, Virginia, after completing basic training in Fort Dix in New Jersey.

Jodi Walz traveled the country and the world playing with the 451st Army Band. One of his notable performances came in 2004 during the 60th anniversary celebration of World War II liberation of Italy in Rome. The Army band went from one Italian-American cemetery to another, putting on concerts for small towns along the way. To top it off, the American ambassador to Italy extended a special invitation.

"He has us out to his home in Rome to perform for U.S. President George W. Bush on Memorial Day," he told the Star News for an article.

Same love for music, different paths

Ryan Walz was named to the Minnesota All-



Submitted photo

Jodi Walz with Command Sgt. Joel Joyner during Operation Desert Storm during the Gulf War.

State band in high school and is working on a double major in political science and music at St. Cloud State University.

He will earn his bachelor's degree next year, and he has plans to pursue a master's degree in public policy on one of the coasts or at the University of Minnesota.

When asked earlier this year if he would perform on Memorial Day in Elk River, it was an easy answer.

"I can be there on Memorial Day, especially for such an important event," Ryan said.

How hard will it be? Well, he got advice from a colleague of his father's before the funeral service for his father to focus on the task at hand, and to think about his father after the performance and not during. It worked, but was certainly easier said than done.

"Every time I play (taps) I will think of

him," Ryan said of his father. "He's played that for so many people, and now I am playing it for him."

Rifle salutes on tour, at Memorial Day program

The Elk River American Legion Honor Guard will have a rifle salute at area cemeteries on Memorial Day to honor deceased veterans before making its way to a new Memorial Day to 8

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I am grateful for Shana Bouley, who is willing to sit down with me and my team to help us understand all of the different online media avenues that APG-ECM offers. I am not super "techie" and she is willing to explain things over (and sometimes over) again so that it starts to make some sense. Being in the real estate service industry, it is important for us to have a positive online presence and for our community to know that we are here to help them as they transition into the next chapter in their lives. I feel that in utilizing Digital Targeted Display, Geo-Fencing, Search Engine Marketing (SEM) and ads on their local newspaper website we are able to offer this to our clients and customers. Thank you for all that you are doing Shana and team!

-Michelle Lundeen, Realtor of Team Lundeen-Remax Results

"We continue to advertise with Aaron and APG/Sun Media to market online. He takes care of ad design and comes to the table with ideas. And whether it's our online display ads, Search Engine Marketing within Google or Pre-Roll Video ads - they are all clearly the top drivers of traffic to our website. With challenging times during the pandemic - it has ensured that traffic in-store and online continues to be strong."

-Ron, Appliance Depot

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- Michele, Primp Salon

Advertising with The Anoka Shopper and The Union Herald has provided The American Cooperative of Anoka a platform to inform and promote our independent senior living community to the greater local area. Cindy Brooking has been particularly responsive and creative in her recommendations and support of our efforts. Beyond our print advertising, we have also utilized APG's email blast service to specifically target our key demographic in the area. We know local advertising is key to our success.

-Denise Didier, The American Cooperative

"The digital advertising solutions offered by the APG-ECM County News Review have provided me with great success in reaching those in my target audience who spend a fair amount of time on their smartphones, tablets or computers. Their digital advertising is truly top-notch and diverse, providing a variety of different ways to target your preferred audience, such as by a specific demographic or by zip code. They also provide their digital advertising clients with an interactive and easy to use analytics dashboard, which makes it easy to track your results in real time. My multimedia rep Shana Bouley was knowledgeable about the digital products they offer and extremely helpful in getting our campaign up and running with the trackable dashboard."

-Tony Potter, Marketing/Public Relations, Arrowhead Transit