

May 19, 2012  
Miller County Historical Museum  
Re: Dedication of the Veterans Memorial

Good Morning Everyone!

Thank you for being here. We have gathered today to dedicate this beautiful memorial which honors our United States Veterans and especially our own Miller County Veterans. It is a striking, impressive monument, and the individuals it honors are so deserving of this recognition. As we pay tribute to their service, I would like each of you to take a moment and consider the influence you have on the lives of those around you.

This memorial honors the lives of our Miller County military service men and women. Some of them served during wartime. Some of them gave their lives during their service. Some of them served during peaceful times. And some are currently serving in uncertain times. At all times they depicted honesty, integrity, loyalty, and were proud to serve our country. We are grateful for our servicemen and women and their dedication. Their service has had a significant influence on our lives. Because of them, we enjoy multiple freedoms.

Our recognition today of their service and this new monument in their honor is an indication of who we are as a community. We are appreciative of our heritage and of all those who have made our freedom possible. We can never thank our servicemen and women enough for their selflessness and sacrifice. Their dedication to our country and their strong character has influenced us as individuals and as a community.

The Miller County Historical Museum houses the records of the people who have had influences on us as a community in the past. Thank you to all those who volunteer their time at the museum to make our county history accurate and complete. Our county museum is a facility we can all be proud to boast about to anyone.

Thank you also to the Jason Ash Memorial Foundation for making this Veteran's memorial possible. If you didn't know Jason Ash, let me tell you, he was a personable, fun, hardworking individual who loved his family and Tuscumbia. He had a positive influence as a son, a brother, a husband, a father and as a member of our community. Many of you here have a great memory of Jason. As a community, we extend our sincere appreciation to the Ash family for making this incredible memorial possible. Jason would be pleased.

Now, what about your influence? You have an impact on others whether you want to or not, good or bad. Today, let's all determine to influence those around us in a positive, significant way whether in word or actions. Like our Miller County service men and women and just like Jason Ash, we can make a difference with our lives and make our community better in the process. Thank you.