

THE GAZETTE

IMCOM-Europe's #1 Newsletter

Published for members of the Chièvres Air Base, Caserne Daumerie, SHAPE and Brussels communities

Belgian Holiday Today

Nov. 2 is Civil Servants Day in Belgium. Therefore, many offices on SHAPE, including the U.S. Housing Office, will be closed or will have minimum staffing. Additionally, Gate 14 at Chièvres and Luxembourg Gate at SHAPE are closed.

Commissary Opening Soon

Construction is complete and the transition to turn the building into a store is underway. Read the full story on page 9.

Chemin des Prince Not Open

The construction along Chemin des Prince, the road leading to the back gate at SHAPE, is not completed yet. Crews still need to add road markings and speed limit signs. Although some construction signs have been removed, the road is not officially open and is not safe for travel. Drivers are advised to use alternate routes until further notice.

Youth AFAP Workgroup

The American Family Action Plan Youth Workgroup is scheduled for Nov. 11 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at ACS Bldg. 318 conference room on SHAPE. The workgroup is designed to give teen students the chance to give input to the Benelux and Chièvres Communities' leadership.

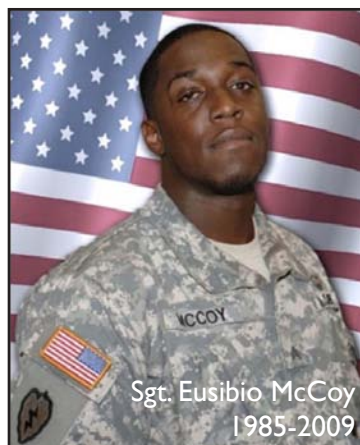
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Community Remembers MP

By Rachel Parks and Christie Vanover

USAG Benelux Public Affairs



The SHAPE and Chièvres communities filled the SHAPE International Chapel Oct. 30 to remember a fellow Soldier who was killed just a few days earlier on his way to work.

Sgt. Eusibio "Bo" McCoy, who was referred to as a "Soldier, son, friend, brother, leader and athlete," died Oct. 26 in a motorcycle accident along a back road in the small town of Jurbise.

The 24-year-old from Maryland joined the Army July 27, 2006. Although he had only been stationed at SHAPE for six months, the military policeman who patrolled the gates of SHAPE made many friends and touched many lives in the community, as was evident by the crowd of more than 300 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, civilians and family members from multiple nations who came out to pay their respects.

Capt. Melissa Comiskey, McCoy's company commander, comforted him at the scene of the accident before he passed away. Fighting back her tears at the memorial service, she told his friends and colleagues that "He was a tremendous Soldier, a

remarkable athlete and a friend to all."

"Take this time to reflect and to remember our comrade, our colleague, our brother," she said.

"He was a big man with a big heart," added British Wing Cdr. Girvan Stewart, the SHAPE Headquarters security officer and provost marshal. Stewart said that McCoy was a combat lifesaver, as well as a hand-to-hand combat instructor who trained more than 250 Soldiers. He also spent time in the community and volunteered in support of a local orphanage.

"He served with distinction and professionalism," said Stewart. "A young, promising life has been taken, but we are all the richer for having known him."

McCoy is survived by his stepmother and stepbrother who live in Maryland, and although they couldn't attend the service in Belgium, McCoy wasn't without family.

"I've never seen a person touch so many people," said his friend Sgt. Ryan Davis. "He was my brother while he was here on earth. Now he's

“ He was my brother while he was here on earth. Now he's my shadowing angel.”

Memorial Service Continued

my shadowing angel. Family to the end.”

Along with an invocation and benediction by Chaplain (Capt.) Sobana Somaratna, several speakers remembered McCoy as a prominent athlete. He played basketball, football and softball.

“If something was called a sport, he not only played it, he excelled at it,” said Dean Jordan, McCoy’s basketball coach. “Bo cherished life.”

At the service, members of the NATO intramural flag football team assembled in the chapel in their green jerseys scribbled with the sayings “R.I.P. Bo” and “#2 Showtime” in honor of their fallen quarterback.

“We won the championship last night, and this is for you,” said Davis, as he showed off the first place trophy to the assembled crowd and then placed it at the base of McCoy’s combat boots. Teammates also left an autographed football and basketball near his boots.

Jordan shared memories of how McCoy motivated players on the basketball court, how he wanted to become a warrant officer and how he made people entering SHAPE smile and

laugh as they drove through the gate.

“Bo was more than a Soldier. He was more than an athlete. He was simply a friend,” he stated. “God is good. God is kind. God is Merciful. Rest in peace, Bo.”

To conclude the service, 1st Sgt. Sandra Myers yelled out a final roll call. “Spc. Coll,” she shouted. “Here first sergeant,” he replied. “Spc. Henderson,” she continued. “Here first sergeant.” “Sgt. Jenks.” “Here first sergeant.” “Staff Sgt. Foster.” “Here first sergeant.”

“Sgt. McCoy,” she shouted to no response. “Sgt. Eusibio McCoy,” she repeated. “Sgt. Eusibio S. McCoy.” The crowd’s weeping grew louder with each call. Then, an international honor guard fired off a 21-gun salute followed by the playing of taps by Master Sgt. Christopher Jeffrey.

To pay their final respects, members of the audience approached the altar in formations of two. They rendered salutes, blew kisses, touched his Kevlar and boots, laid treasures at his feet and said their final farewells.

McCoy was assigned to Alpha Company, SHAPE Battalion, U.S. Army NATO Brigade, with duty with the International Military Police, SHAPE Headquarters. Prior to his assignment at SHAPE, McCoy served with the 116th Military Police Combat Support Company at Fort Riley, Kan., and deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from May 2007 to July 2008.

His awards and decorations include the Joint Service Commendation Medal (Posthumous), Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon with a number 2 and the Combat Action Badge.



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