
U.S. ARMY
SERGEANT
PHILIP J. IYOTTE

JUNE 24, 2023

WHITE RIVER, SD





On November 26, 2019, South Dakota launched the Fallen Heroes Bridge Dedication Program. The program dedicates state bridges to South Dakota heroes who died while in active service, were a prisoner of war or were missing in action.

The Little White River Bridge on US HWY 83 is dedicated to U.S. Army Sergeant Philip Iyotte.

Iyotte was a member of Company E, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, assigned under 8th Army. He was declared missing in action on February 9, 1951, when he was captured by Chinese forces during Operation Thunderbolt. He died September 10, 1951, while a prisoner. His body was returned to the U.S. after the war, but remained unidentified until 2017 when he was returned home to his family.

For his service and sacrifice Iyotte received many medals and citations. Among them, the Purple Heart, the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

