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WORLD WAR II & KOREAN WAR VET RETURNS HOME
Town of Reading Will Welcome Him With Flags

The remains of Army Sergeant Christopher Y. Vars, brother of long-time Reading resident Robert Vars, will be returning home on September 9, 2015, 65 years after being listed as Missing in Action while fighting the enemy in North Korea on November 29, 1950. Sgt. Vars was a member of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. He served during World War II in Burma, Central Burma and China, leaving the service at the end of the war. He reenlisted to serve during the Korean War.

Sergeant Vars was taken as prisoner of war while in Korea. His remains were found in POW Camp #5, North Korea, along the banks of the Yulu River but a DNA match was unable to be made until recently. Sgt. Vars was the recipient of many awards including the Purple Heart, the POW & Mia Medals, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and several others.

He will be returning to his country, arriving at Logan Airport at 11:24 am on Wednesday, September 9, 2015. He will be escorted by the State Police and Patriot Guard to the Douglass, Edgerley and Bessom Funeral Home in Reading, MA. Burial with full military honors will be on October 6th. A service will be held at the Congregational Church in Reading at 10:30 on that day. Internment will ultimately be in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett following the church service.

The Town of Reading will be welcoming Sgt. Vars home between 12:00 and 1:00PM on Wednesday, September 9. Flags will be distributed at town hall beginning at 11:30 AM for all those who would like to participate in the homecoming.

(Courtesy Photo Attached)

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