

## Customs, Courtesies, and Traditions: “Bonded Commitment” Video Case Study

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**Facilitator:** This is a two-part video. Watch each part, asking the associated questions after the correct segment. Remember that SGT Purchase volunteered to share this story and served admirably and heroically in combat.

**Video summary:** SGT Purchase demonstrates strong personal and professional bonds strengthened by courtesy and custom that were maintained within his group of battle buddies upon redeployment. After learning SPC Carry, a member of his Army family who died of bone cancer, he maintains his commitment to never leave a fellow comrade.

Two parts; Length: 2:12, 2:10

### Notes:

#### Part 1

- Military courtesy defines interactions between professionals. But as relationships grow, courtesy becomes more than just regulation.
  - How do courtesies between Soldiers affect the organization’s ability to function?
  - SGT Purchase describes his relationship with SPC Carry, why does this seem normal in the Army culture?
- SGT Purchase said, “[my wife] didn’t really understand the teamwork and camaraderie we build down there.”
  - Share with the group how bonds between you and other members of your team affect esprit de corps.

#### Part 2

- Traditions reflect the “Army Way” of accomplishing the mission.
  - Explain how ceremonies, such as military funerals, are reminders of tradition.
- What does SGT Purchase’s decision to attend SPC Carry’s funeral say about his character? His commitment to his comrades?
  - How are SGT Purchase and his comrades acting as Stewards of the Profession?
  - What effect will attending the ceremony have on the families of both SPC Carry and SGT Purchase?