

L.I. Town Mourns a Kent State Victim

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This community has drawn together out of a sense of confusion and bereavement over the death of Jeffrey Glenn Miller, one of four Kent State University students killed by National Guardsmen on Monday.

But as the war in Indochina is debated with new urgency, the cleavage between pro-war and antiwar factions has deepened in Jeffrey Miller's home town.

Yesterday, there was a candlelight vigil at the local library, a solemn motorcade through town and a spontaneous petition calling for an end to the war that collected 2,000 signatures within three hours.

Today, classes at the two high schools all but stopped as several thousand students gathered in the gymnasium of John F. Kennedy High School for a memorial service to the 20-year-old youth who had lived here for the last 10 years. In speeches, songs and prayers, the message of anger and anguish came through.

"How could they kill him?" demanded Jeff Weingarten, who graduated from Plainview-Old Bethpage High School with Mr. Miller in 1967. "He was like the rest of us. He left for

college confused. And now he's dead. Another statistic."

Theodore C. Sorensen, a candidate for the Democratic nomination to the United States Senate, also spoke at the service. "Who killed Jeff Miller?" he asked. "A band of National Guardsmen returning stones with gunfire."

"Who else killed Jeff Miller?" he asked repeatedly, answering it each time: those who brought the Guard in, "the authors of our new policy in Indochina," "the national leaders who have turned a deaf ear to peaceful protest and labeled dissenters 'bums,'" "a handful of self-styled revolutionary militants," and finally, "all of us."

The antiwar tone of the eulogies was heightened, many said, by a heated meeting of the Board of Education here last night. The session was called to consider student demands that the body condemn United States intervention in Southeast Asia and "the violent repression of student dissent" at home.

The police were called to the packed auditorium when a scuffle broke out as a member of the audience tried to grab the microphone from a Kent State University student who was attempting to describe the events

leading to the killings. There were no arrests.

"The meeting was a profile of the whole nation," said Dr. Robert Savitt, the Superintendent of Schools. "There was a division there which must be of concern to every thinking American."

The board, which had refused to take a stand on the war the night before, passed a resolution condemning violence on all sides. Many students viewed the resolution as unsatisfactory and spoke of boycotting classes in protest.

While the meeting was going on, Jeffrey Miller's older brother, Russell, 23, spoke at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Rutherford, N.J. He said he would attend an antiwar demonstration in Washington on Saturday.

"I wasn't part of the revolution before," he said. "But from today on I'm going to be."

Jeffrey Miller's father, Bernard Miller, is a typesetter for The New York Times. "I just hope that something comes out of this," he said today.

"This was not a violent kid. He was brilliant. He loved music. Why the devil did the guys have to have bullets in their guns, right in the chamber? It was one set of kids against another."