

Medal of Honor

(Staff Sergeant Salvatore Giunta will be awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions in Afghanistan's Korengal Valley, an area called the Valley of Death. Here are a few comments from the movie "Restrepo, the Movie")

Reporter: What went through your head when you heard you were going to be up for a Medal of Honor?

Sal Giunta: "Fuck you ... I said ... I thought something ... it sounded great in theory ... it sounds really awesome in theory but ... uhh ... I mean what's it worth ... Brennan, Mendoza ... so ... they were ...?"

Sal Giunta: "I don't know what its worth. It's worth a lot. I don't want to... like, I don't want to downplay it at all. It is ... the Medal of Honor is ... the greatest. Given to just some real tough guys out there doing shit for other people that aren't necessary, but they do it and that is not me. I didn't do shit. I did what I did because ... in the scheme of this whole painting the picture of that ambush, that was just my brush stroke. That's not above and beyond, that picture wouldn't have been complete without that brush stroke and it was my brush stroke to take. I didn't take the biggest brush stroke and it wasn't the most important brush stroke, it was just one that completed the picture."

Sal Giunta: "This is the nation's highest honor. Awesome. And it's given to me... ok. But just as much as me, every single person that I have been with deserves to wear it. Deserves to....they are just as much of me as I am. This isn't a one-man show. I'm here because someone picked me. I hope that everyone around me can share in whatever pride that comes from it. They deserve that pride."

Sal Giunta: "Out of all these people that I have been with, out of two combat tours, I am sitting here in this studio with you right now and Battle Company Second of the 503rd, the 173rd is out there doing it again, just being brave."

Sal Giunta: "My name in lights doesn't look that good, but if I can bring everyone else's name with me then... cool, I think that looks pretty good with everyone else's name there."