



Sergeant Michael Wayne Heede Jr.

6 May 1987 - 13 July 2009

Sgt Michael Wayne Heede Jr was born on May 6, 1987 in Baltimore, MD. He lived in South Carolina for 8 years then moved to Delta, Pennsylvania with his mother Gloria Jean Heede. Sgt Heede graduated from Kennard-Dale High School in 2005. While in high school he was a member of the Varsity Club, Future Business Leaders of America, and was also the President of the Future Farmers of America. Along with many classes in wood and metal working, Sgt Heede was a four year varsity letterman and the Captain of the Cross Country Team and the Lacrosse Team. In cross country, Sgt Heede finished 3rd in the county, 45th in the state, and 84th in the region. He also held the Kennard-Dale High School record for the mile running 4 minutes 19 seconds. For his athletic achievement, Sgt Heede was offered scholarships from six different colleges.

As a child Sgt Heede was always interested in military history and he knew this was something he wanted to do. On September 6, 2005, and at the age of 17, Sgt Heede enlisted in the United States Marine Corps attending Marine Corps Boot Camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, SC. He graduated boot camp on the December 2, 2005 as the company's most physically fit Marine. On January 3, 2006, Sgt Heede reported to Marine Combat Training at Camp Lejeune, NC and graduated on January 27, 2006 where he then reported to Court House Bay, Camp Lejeune, NC for Basic Combat Engineer School. Sgt Heede graduated with a 98.9% which put him second in his class.

On April 6, 2006, Sgt Heede reported to 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, CA and was assigned to Alpha Company 3d Platoon. Sgt Heede deployed twice with Alpha Company, one was in support of Battalion Landing Team 2d Battalion 5th Marines, and one in support of Battalion Landing Team 2d Battalion 4th Marines, Operation Iraqi Freedom. During this deployment Sgt Heede operated in Haditha, Iraq and was part of a five man engineer team. During this time, Sgt Heede and his team found 250 enemy weapons caches and disarmed two pressure plate improvised explosive devices.

Along with maintaining a perfect score on the Marine Corps Physical Fitness Score, Sgt Heede attended many Marine Corps specialty schools such as Helicopter Rope Suspension Training Master Course, Combat Marksmanship Instructor Course, Raid Leader Course, Non-Infantry Machine Gunners Course, and Corporal's Course. He also achieved a Brown Belt in the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program.



Sgt Heede was assigned to Route Clearance Company, 2d Platoon as a Fire Team Leader in Helmand Province, Afghanistan in support of Task Force Leatherneck. He was combat meritoriously promoted to the rank of Sergeant on May 2, 2009. Sgt Heede's personal decorations include the Purple Heart and the Combat Action Ribbon with one gold star in lieu of second award.



Memorial Service



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6 May 1987 - 13 July 2009

*Route Clearance Company
1st Combat Engineer Battalion
24 July 2009
FOB Dwyer, Afghanistan*

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
1ST COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION
2D MARINE EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE
FOB Dwyer, Afghanistan
24 JULY 2009

Invocation CHAPLAIN BERRENS

National Anthem

Emplacement of the Memorial Stand

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 LCPL GAERTNER

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to cast away;
a time to mend, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
a time to love, and a time to hate;
a time for war, and a time for peace.

What gain has the worker from his toil? I have seen the business that God has given to the sons of men to be busy with. He has made everything beautiful in its time; also he has put eternity into man's mind, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

Second Reading: Psalm 23 LCPL EDMISON

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want; He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies; thou anointest my head with oil, my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Commanding Officer's Remarks LTCOL CALLANAN

Company Commander's Remarks CAPT BOOHER

Personal Reflections SGT COX

CPL WALLIN

Special Music:
Amazing Grace

Pastoral Reflection CHAPLAIN BERRENS

Marine's Prayer CPL MACARENO

Almighty Father, whose command is over all and whose love never fails, make me aware of Thy presence and obedient to Thy will. Keep me true to my best self, guarding me against dishonesty in purpose and deed and helping me to live so that I can face my fellow Marines, my loved ones, and Thee without shame or fear. Protect my family. Give me the will to do the work of a Marine and to accept my share of responsibilities with vigor and enthusiasm. Grant me the courage to be proficient in my daily performance. Keep me loyal and faithful to my superiors and to the duties my country and the Marine Corps have entrusted to me. Make me considerate of those committed to my leadership. Help me to wear my uniform with dignity, and let it remind me daily of the traditions which I must uphold. If I am inclined to doubt, steady my faith; if I am tempted, make me strong to resist; if I should miss the mark, give me courage to try again. Guide me with the light of truth and grant me wisdom by which I may understand the answer to my prayer. AMEN.

Hymn Eternal Father

*Eternal Father
Eternal Father, strong to save
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who biddest the mighty ocean deep,
Its own appointed limits keep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to thee,
For those in peril on the sea!*

*Eternal Father, grant, we pray,
To all Marines, both night and day,
The courage, honor, strength, and skill,
Their land to serve, thy law fulfill;
Be thou the shield forevermore,
From every peril to the Corps.*

Roll Call 1STSGT RODRIGUEZ

Taps

As you depart, please follow the official party to offer your personal prayer for Sgi Heede Jr and his family.