

STAFF SGT. SHAWN A. GRAHAM U.S. Army Operation Iraqi Freedom Posthumous Honoree

Staff Sgt. Shawn Graham was a member of the Army National Guard's 124th Cavalry Regiment, 36th Infantry Division, out of Fort Worth, Texas. However, he was originally from Grove City, Mercer County, PA. He is the son of Thomas L. and Kathleen Graham of Grove City, PA.

Graham served 10 years in the Marines after graduating from Grove City High School in 1989. He was inactive for a year, then was reactivated after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. By then he had moved to Brazoria, Texas where he joined the National Guard.

Being from a "military family", Staff Sgt. Graham and his younger brother, Nicholas, decided to follow in their father's footsteps and both joined the military shortly after graduating from high school – Shawn Graham joined the Pennsylvania National Guard in 1988 and later joined the Marines.

Staff Sgt. Shawn A. Graham died Sunday, September 25, 2005 in Baghdad of injuries sustained earlier that day when the vehicle he was in rolled over in Balad, Iraq.

Graham's sister stated that her brothers and father ".....always believed one of the most honorable ways a soldier can leave this earth is fighting for the freedom of their country...."

At the time of his death, Graham's wife, Jeannette, still lived in Brazoria, Texas.