



Chris Glaeser '80 is a member of the Tournament of Roses Committee and the Rose Float construction team for the city of South Pasadena, Calif. Last year Glaeser was selected to be the float operator in charge of animation and music and an observer. The South Pasadena float is one of the oldest floats in the Rose Parade. Glaeser sat in the mushroom and had a viewing port through the stem. He and his wife, **Jane Brust '83**, also help decorate the float along with their daughter.

In Memoriam

Lt. Zachary Ryan Cook '08

U.S. Army **2nd Lt. Zachary Ryan Cook '08** died Jan. 12 after a Texas National Guard UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter in which he was a passenger crashed on Texas A&M's Duncan Field (see page 31 for more on the crash).

Cook, 22, was a 2004 Lufkin High School graduate who majored in wildlife and fisheries sciences at A&M. "Zac was truly an exceptional young man, leader and a great Aggie," said **Col. Samuel Hawes '81**, professor of military science. "He was the consummate Aggie. He was friendly, fun, loving, hard-working and hell-raisin' at times." Cook was a special young man with a swagger that brought to mind a young John Wayne, Hawes said.



Cook graduated from A&M in December 2008 and was a newly commissioned Army aviation officer. Friends and family told the *Bryan-College Station Eagle* that Cook had dreamed of flying helicopters for the U.S. Army.

George Dalton '08, who knew Cook when both were in the Corps of Cadets, called him "one of the greatest guys I ever met." And Cook's friend Blake Leggett said Cook had been "dead set on serving his country" and was ecstatic when he was accepted into Army aviation.

"He broke the mold," Leggett said. "That's probably the world's

biggest loss is he's the type of friend everybody should have and everybody should want to be."

Trey Davis '08 was also in the Corps

of Cadets with Cook. "He was one of the guys you could call up anytime of the night and he would answer," he said. "He would do anything for you."

Todd Foley, baseball coach at Lufkin High School, where Cook was the starting catcher his senior year, told the *Lufkin Daily News* that Cook embodied everything he tried to teach on the baseball field. "He was willing to do whatever it took to help out the team, and, no matter how big or small, he was always there to get it done."

A memorial service was held for Cook on Jan. 20 in Rudder Auditorium. A&M cadets marched to the auditorium in formation, and members of Cook's former Corps unit, Company D-1, participated in the ceremony along with the Parsons Mounted Calvary and the ROTC cadre.

Funeral services were Jan. 17 at First Baptist Church in Lufkin.

Cook's Silver Taps notice appears on Page 105 of this issue.