



In Memoriam



CAPTAIN BLAKE RUSSELL '98

U.S. Army **Capt. Blake Russell '98** was killed on July 22, 2006, while investigating a possible weapons cache during combat operations in Baghdad, Iraq.

Assigned to the 101st Airborne Division based at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, Russell had been awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart during his career. He served as a general's aide before the war began and went on to serve two more tours in Iraq as a field artillery officer for the 2nd Brigade of the 502nd Infantry Regiment.

Russell graduated from Fort Worth Boswell High School and earned his bachelor's degree in marketing in 1998 from Texas A&M University.

"He's my hero," his father said. "He exemplifies what this country is built on and totally believed in what we were doing. A father could not be more proud of his son."

Russell is survived by his wife, Belinda, son Dylan, 7, and daughter Haley, 3, who live at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

"His children were the reason he served—once telling our son he had to deploy so he could fight the bad guys over there so he can be safe here," Ms. Russell said in a written statement.

Russell's life was celebrated July 31, 2006, during services at Holy Family Catholic Church in Fort Worth. He was laid to rest at Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery.



Peace Corps

Peace Corps volunteer **Michelle Rene Maness '95** has helped the ecotourism business within the small community of Paso Caballos, Mexico. After experiencing and evaluating a six-kilometer walking tour of Mayan ruins and its tour guides, Maness and her co-workers created a training manual for the guides. They began the daunting task of compiling and translating all the important information needed for the tour including the history, archeology and ecology surrounding the site and the area. The team was able to distribute the training manuals earlier this year. Maness was involved with this and various other projects throughout her two-year term with the Peace Corps.



Sir Moseley

Air Force Chief of Staff **Gen. T. Michael Moseley '71** was knighted in a recent ceremony at the British embassy in Washington. The knighthood recognized Moseley's contributions to U.S.-United Kingdom relations while serving as commander of the air war over Afghanistan and Iraq. Previous honors for Moseley include induction into Texas A&M's Corps of Cadets Hall of Honor in 2005. Last year, he also received the James V. Hartinger Award for achievements in advancing the military space mission. In 2003, he was given the H.H. Arnold Award for his national security efforts.



Lt. Chris Imle '02, deployed to the Persian Gulf, is shown on board the *USS Enterprise* from the cockpit of his S-3 prior to take-off.



Maj. Michael Ripley '93 conducted a raid in the Cahar Cineh Valley in southern Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom VI. The raid netted seven insurgents and a large quantity of bomb making materials.