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AGGIE NETWORKNEWS

In Memoriam

Lt. Col. Roy Tisdale '92



Lt. Col. Roy Tisdale '92

was fatally shot by another member of his unit during a safety briefing at Fort Bragg in North Carolina on June 28. Tisdale, 42, took command of the 525th Brigade Special Troops Battalion in January.

He was commissioned as an infantry officer after graduating from Texas A&M in 1993. At his funeral in College Station, Tisdale was

described as “a great American” and as a man who “did his duty and did it very well.” He is remembered, speakers said, as a father dedicated to his family, commander committed to his soldiers and American willing to risk everything for his country.

As hundreds of friends, former Classmates and soldiers paid tribute to Tisdale at his funeral, outside an estimated group of 500-plus supporters wearing maroon stood guard around the building. Dubbed the “Maroon Wall,” the group—mostly current A&M students—gathered to honor Tisdale and his sacrifice and to protect the proceedings from being interrupted by a protest

group that had announced plans to attend. Aggies and other supporters also lined the streets when Tisdale’s body arrived in College Station. The Maroon Wall at Tisdale’s funeral received national news coverage; the protestors never showed up.

Most of the hundreds standing guard did not know Tisdale personally. Asked by a news reporter why she was there since she didn’t know Tisdale, one woman answered: “He’s a son of Aggieland... There are no strangers on this road.”

Tisdale was buried in the Aggie Field of Honor in College Station. He is survived by his wife, Kim, and two children, Megan and Lane.

Tisdale was a former member of the Corps of Cadets Company D-2 and competed on a ROTC Ranger Challenge team in 1991 that won a national championship. He was a member of Rudder’s Rangers for four years.

Tisdale’s military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Joint Military Unit Award, National Defense Service Medal, Meritorious Unit Citation, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, NATO Medal, Air Assault, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge and Senior Parachutist Badge.