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# AGGIE NETWORKNEWS

## In Memoriam

### Maj. Nathan W. Anderson '02



U.S. Marine Maj. **Nathan W. Anderson '02** died February 22 when two military helicopters collided during a nighttime training exercise at the Yuma Training Range Complex near the Arizona-California border.

Anderson, 32, was commissioned in the Marine Corps Dec. 20, 2002, and served as a UH-1Y Huey pilot. He graduated from Amarillo High School in 1998 and from Texas A&M University in 2002 with a degree in animal science. He was a member of the Corps of Cadets Company H-1 at Texas A&M and served as a Ross Volunteer. Anderson is the 27th Aggie to die since Sept. 11, 2001, while serving our country in the military.

"Our sincerest condolences go out to the family of Captain Nathan W. Anderson, USMC, who was killed in the helicopter crash at Yuma, Arizona," wrote Corps of Cadets Commandant Brig. Gen. Joe E. Ramirez, Jr. '79. "May God Bless Nathan and his entire family. Rest in peace, Marine. 'Softly call the muster...'"

Anderson, one of seven Marines killed in the collision, was assigned to the Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma in Arizona.

Anderson served three deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2007, 2008 and 2009. His awards and decorations include an Individual Air Medal for heroism, Air Medal with Strike Flight Numeral (2), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with gold star in lieu of second award, Navy Unit Commendation with bronze star in lieu of second award, National Defense Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal with two bronze stars for subsequent deployments, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with two bronze stars for subsequent deployments.

Remembered by his hometown as a quiet leader whose work ethic made him a good fit for the military, his high school football coach described him as a hard worker with high intelligence. "He was dedicated to being as good as he could be and dedicated to being a good team member," said Larry Dippel, the *Globe News* reported.

Anderson is survived by his wife, Amanda Caroline Cooper Anderson '01; their sons, Randon Cooper Anderson (10) and William Cole Anderson (8); and many other family members.