



In Memoriam



SERGEANT MERIDETH L. HOWARD '76

U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class **Merideth L. Howard '76** was killed September 8, 2006, in Kabul, Afghanistan, when a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device detonated near her Humvee. Howard was assigned to the 364th Civil Affairs Brigade in support of the 10th Mountain Division at the time of her death.

Howard graduated from Corpus Christi's King High School in 1973 and earned both bachelor's and master's degrees in biology from Texas A&M University.

Family members, including her cousin, Lorraine Stevenson of Corpus Christi, remember Howard's infectious laugh and her love of the outdoors.

"She was one of the sweetest people I've ever known," Stevenson said, "I never heard her speak ill of anyone."

After graduating from Texas A&M, Howard became the city of Bryan's first female firefighter and only the second woman to complete the eight-week recruit academy at the Brayton Fire School.

Bryan Fire Department officials remembered Howard has an intelligent, hard-working firefighter who helped implement improvements within the department.

A member of the Army Reserves since 1988, Howard was called to active duty in December 2005. Her unit worked closely with Afghan locals to rebuild roads, schools and infrastructure destroyed through decades of fighting.

Howard's husband, Hugh Hvolboll of Waukesha, Wisconsin, released a statement about his wife in the days following her death.

"Merideth was a loving, affectionate and outgoing wife," he said. "She gave the shirt off her back to help each and every friend she had. She is greatly missed by her family and friends across the country."

Along with her husband, Merideth is survived by numerous cousins and friends, including many Aggies, throughout Texas and the United States.



"This is **Lt. Cmdr. Scott Thornton '79**, Navy microbiologist writing from Camp Bautista, Jolo Island, Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao, Philippines. It's hot as Houston here and, as always, I'm using my Aggie towel as a sweat rag. I'm aboard my 10th and final ship, the hospital ship USNS MERCY (T-AH 19), helping provide medical services to the people of the southern Philippines as part of Operation Enduring Freedom. I retired in August and returned at last to Texas after 20 years, having lived all over from Egypt to Hawaii, and surviving three wars with my jarhead buddies. It's been great, but it's time to come home."



Capt. Scott Lister '92 (left) was recently awarded the Bronze Star Medal for exceptionally meritorious service in a combat zone as assistant chief of staff for engineering, multi-national security transition command—Iraq in Baghdad. As the lead engineer, Lister traveled throughout Iraq, managed facility requirements and planned and executed a \$5 billion construction program supporting the Iraqi Security Forces. He also implemented a model program greatly improving the policies, processes and procedures within the Iraqi Ministry of Defense Infrastructure Division which will serve as a pivotal factor in accelerating Iraq's transition to sovereignty. Lister is shown here with Lt. Gen. Martin Dempsey during the award presentation.



Front row from left: **Lt. Col. Lee McKnight** (Aggie by birth!), **Lt. Col. Rusty Rowe '90**, **Lt. Col. Alan Soukup '88**, **Capt. Clint Cody '99**. Back row from left: **Capt. Tyson Weekley '00**, **Capt. Mike Healy '94**. All (except Clint) are on the division staff of the 101st Airborne Division (AASLT) stationed at Camp Speicher, Iraq.