

RYAN JAMES SAVARD
1983–2012

FAMILY HISTORY:

Ryan James Savard was born in Salt Lake City, Utah on February 27, 1983 to parents Sergeant Major Garrett and Marie (Cutler) Savard. Ryan had five sisters: Rachel, Rebekah, Virginia, Karen and Mariah and two brothers: Jedidiah and Garrett. Ryan lived in Utah until he was 5 years old, moved to New Hampshire until he was 17 and moved to Sierra Vista, Arizona before entering the United States Army.

EDUCATION:

He graduated from Buena High School in Sierra Vista, AZ in 2001.

HISTORY:

Ryan enlisted in the United States Army on August 29, 2001 and began his training as a helicopter repairer. After completion of Initial Entry Training, he was assigned to Bravo Company, 7th Battalion, 159th Aviation in Gieblstadt, Germany. He served for 2 years as a UH-60 repairman. While assigned to the 159th Aviation, Ryan was deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He graduated from the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School in June 2004 to become a Special Forces weapons sergeant. Upon graduating from the Special Forces Qualification Course, Ryan was assigned to Company A, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne), Fort Bragg, N.C., where he served as a Special Forces Company Assistant Operations Sergeant and a Special Forces weapons sergeant. Sergeant Savard was assigned to Operations Detachment Group Support Battalion, 3rd SFG (A) in 2008 where he served as a Senior Special Forces weapons sergeant. He was deployed three times to Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom. In May 2010, Sergeant Savard was assigned as a Special Operations Team Member, U.S. Army Special Operations Command. For over two years, he performed this duty, deploying twice in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. For his honorable service to his country, Sergeant First Class Ryan James Savard was awarded the Bronze Star Medal (2nd Award), Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal (3rd Award), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal (3rd Award), Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Commendation, U.S. Army Good Conduct Medal (3rd Award), National Defense Service Ribbon, Kosovo Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with 4 Bronze Service Stars, Global War On Terrorism Expeditionary Medal,

Global War On Terrorism Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon with numeral 3, U.S. Army Service Ribbon, U.S. Army Overseas Service Ribbon with numeral 2, NATO Medal with Bronze Service Star, Special Forces Tab, Ranger Tab, Combat Infantryman Badge, Aviation Badge, Military Free Fall Parachutist Badge, Parachutist Badge, and five Overseas Service Bars. He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal (3rd Award), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and the Purple Heart.

PERSONAL:

Ryan J. Savard married Kayla (Fritz) Savard on March 8, 2005 in Sierra Vista, Arizona.

MILITARY

COURSES:

The Warrior Leader Course, Basic Airborne Course, Survival Evasion Resistance Escape High Risk Survival Course, Special Forces Qualification Course, Advanced Leader Course, Special Operations Weapons Sergeant Course, Special Operations Language Training-French, Special Operations Target Interdiction Course, ULLS-A Course, Ranger Course, Special Forces Advanced Reconnaissance Target Exploitation Course, Advanced Land Navigation Course, Free Fall Parachutist Course, Senior Leader Course, and the Static Line Jumpmaster Course.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES/ORGANIZATIONS:

He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Ryan enjoyed skiing and sky-diving. He was very interested in being a weapons & tactics expert.

Sadly, Ryan James Savard was killed in action on October 12, 2012 in Afghanistan and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.