



Biographical Sketch

U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE, FORT BRAGG, NC 28310 910-432-6005

Capt. John "David" Hortman Died August 8, 2011

Capt. John "David" Hortman, 30, died Aug. 08, 2011, when his AH-6M Little Bird helicopter crashed at a live-fire range on Fort Benning, Ga., during a training mission.

Hortman, a native of Inman, S.C., graduated from the United States Military Academy with a degree in History in May 2004. Upon completion of Initial Entry Rotary Wing Training, Hortman was assigned to Fort Drum, N.Y., where he served in multiple positions including scout platoon leader and company commander. Following his assignment to Fort Drum, Hortman attended the Aviation Captain's Career Course at Fort Rucker, Ala. After a successful assessment in 2010, Hortman was assigned to 1st Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) at Fort Campbell, Ky., as an AH-6M special operations light attack helicopter platoon leader.



He is a combat veteran with three deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

His military training includes the Initial Entry Rotary Wing Training, Aviation Officer Basic Course, OH-58D Aircraft Qualification Course, US Army Airborne School, U.S. Army Ranger School, Modern Army Combatives Level 1, Aviation Captain's Course, Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape Course, and 160th SOAR (A) AH-6M Officer Green Platoon.

Hortman's awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Aviator Badge, Combat Action Badge, Parachutist Badge, and the Ranger Tab.

Hortman is survived by his mother, Brenda Jones, of Inman, S.C., his sister, Jill Hortman, of Colorado Springs, Colo., and his brother, Andy Pierce, of Overland Park, Kan.

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