



LT MICHAEL P. MURPHY NAVY SEAL MUSEUM



TUESDAY - SUNDAY
10:00AM - 4:00PM
CLOSED MONDAYS &
SOME HOLIDAYS



50 WEST AVENUE
WEST SAYVILLE, NY 11796



+1 631-589-7325

OPERATION RED WINGS

JUNE 28, 2005

IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT WHEN A LOVED ONE DIES, THE FAMILY EXPERIENCES TWO DEATHS - ONCE WHEN THEY LEAVE THIS EARTH AND AGAIN WHEN PEOPLE FORGET WHO THEY WERE.

A TRIBUTE TO
HEROES

WWW.MURPHSEALMUSEUM.ORG

** 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF OPERATION RED WINGS**

THE FACES OF THE FALLEN



U. S. NAVY SEALs

U. S. ARMY NIGHT STALKERS

"It is with an equal amount of sorrow and pride that we remember the 20th Anniversary of Operation Red Wings. Sorrow for the loss that their families must endure. Sorrow for our teammates that we will never see again and sorrow that so many lives have been affected by this tragedy. But, we also stand in absolute awe of their heroism. Our pride in knowing that our teammates fought valiantly against a numerically superior enemy. Pride in knowing that they sacrificed for each other. Pride in knowing that their fellow SEALs boarded a helicopter without hesitation, to join the battle. Pride in knowing that they represented the best in everyone that ever wore a Trident. Even as we feel the pain of our loss, our pride far exceeds our sorrow. May God bless our fallen teammates and may God ease the pain of those who endured without them."

Navy SEAL Admiral (ret) William McRaven, Special Operations Command



MATTHEW G. AXELSON

Born on June 25, 1976 in Cupertino, California. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy on December 28, 2000. Axelson went through SEAL training, Airborne training and SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team training before being assigned to SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team ONE at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. PO2 Axelson deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in April 2005, and he was killed in action during Operation Red Wings on June 28, 2005. Petty Officer 2nd Class Axelson received the Navy Cross for his actions during Operation Red Wings. Axelson was buried at the Glen Oaks Memorial Park in Chico, California.



DANNY P. DIETZ, JR.

Born on January 28, 1980 in Aurora, Colorado. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy on August 30, 1999. Dietz attended Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training. He served with SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team TWO in Virginia. He was killed in action while deployed in Afghanistan during Operation Red Wings as a 4-man reconnaissance mission. Petty Officer 2nd Class Dietz received the Navy Cross posthumously. He was buried at Fort Logan National Cemetery in Denver, Colorado.



JACQUES J. FONTAN

Born on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 1968 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Petty Officer Fontan attended Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training in 1998 followed by service with SEAL Team EIGHT and then with Naval Special Warfare Group TWO, followed by his final assignment with SEAL Team TEN. He was killed in action when the MH-47 Chinook helicopter he was aboard was shot down by an enemy rocket-propelled grenade during Operation Red Wings. Chief Petty Officer 2nd Class Fontan received the Bronze Star Medal posthumously. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



DANIEL R. HEALY

Born on July 17, 1968 in Exeter, New Hampshire. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1990. He completed Informational Technician training, Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL, Jump School and SEAL Qualification Training. After serving with SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team ONE, and SEAL Team TWO, his final assignment was with SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team ONE when he was killed in action while aboard the MH-47 that was hit by an enemy rocket-propelled grenade. Senior Chief Petty Officer Healy received the Bronze Star Medal w/Valor posthumously. He was buried in the National Cemetery at Fort Rosecrans, California.



ERIK S. KRISTENSEN

Born on March 15, 1972 in Portsmouth, Virginia. Kristensen attended the U.S. Naval Academy in 1995. He served on the destroyer USS Chandler until 1998, then served as an instructor at the Naval Academy until 2000. LT Kristensen next completed BUD/S training, Jump School and served with SEAL Team EIGHT, and then with SEAL Team TEN. He was deployed to Afghanistan and killed during ORW when the Chinook he was aboard was shot down by enemy fire. LT Commander Kristensen received the Bronze Star w/Valor posthumously and was buried at the U.S. Naval Academy Cemetery in Annapolis, Maryland.

“On this 20th anniversary of Operation Red Wings and the loss of our son, Michael and members of his SEAL team, reminds us of the sacrifices of our fallen men and women who have lost their lives in service to our Nation. Michael’s story of courage still resonates even 20 years later and stands as a beacon to all Americans of our Nation’s commitment to freedom and the American dream. On a more personal level, it is difficult to grasp that it has been 20 years since I lost Michael and I wonder my God where has the time gone. I join all Americans in honoring all those who sacrificed their lives for they gave their tomorrows for our todays.”

Daniel J. Murphy



JEFFREY A. LUCAS

Born on September 17, 1971 in Corbett, Oregon. Lucas completed Electronic Technician school, served with Naval Submarine Training Center, then the Branch Medical Clinic in California before UDT/SEAL training, and Jump School. He then served with SEAL Team ONE and SEAL Team EIGHT before his final assignment with SEAL Team TEN. He then deployed to Afghanistan where he was killed aboard the MH-47 Chinook by enemy rocket-propelled grenade. Petty Officer 1st Class Lucas received the Bronze Star Medal w/Valor posthumously. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



MICHAEL M. McGREEVY, Jr.

Born on April 24, 1975 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He was commissioned an Ensign in 1997. He served aboard the dock landing ship USS Oak Hill and then entered Basic UDT/SEAL training. He served with SEAL Team FOUR at NAB, Norfolk. Followed by SEAL Team EIGHT at NAB, Little Creek and SEAL Team TEN at Little Creek 2004-2005. He then deployed to Afghanistan. He was killed in action during ORW by an attack by enemy rocket-propelled grenade while aboard the MH-47 Chinook helicopter. LT McGreevy received the Bronze Star Medal w/Valor posthumously. He was buried at Arlington Cemetery.



MICHAEL P. MURPHY

Born on May 7, 1976 in Smithtown, New York. He entered Navy Officer Candidate School and was commissioned an Ensign in 2000. He then trained as a Navy SEAL. Murphy was assigned to SDV Team ONE in Hawaii. After deployments to Jordan and Qatar, he was assigned to SEAL Team ONE in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. During Operation Red Wings, he and his men were killed during the mission. LT Murphy received the Medal of Honor for this mission. “The Fiery Irishman from New York, as he was known, was buried at Calverton National Cemetery, Calverton, New York.



SHANE E. PATTON

Born November 15, 1982 in San Diego, California. After graduating basic training he attended Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training, Jump School, SEAL Qualification, and Swimmer Delivery Vehicle training followed by service with SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team ONE in Hawaii and then SEAL Team TEN in Afghanistan. He was killed during Operation Red Wings while onboard a Chinook MH-47 when hit by an enemy rocket-propelled grenade. Petty Officer 2nd Class Patton received the Bronze Star Medal. He was buried at the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Boulder City, Nevada.



JAMES E. SUH

Born on March 2, 1977 in Chicago, Illinois. Suh completed basic training, Quartermaster School, Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training, Jump School and SEAL Qualification training followed by Swimmer Delivery Vehicle training. His first assignment was with SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team ONE in Hawaii. He then deployed to Afghanistan with SEAL Team TEN until he was killed in action during Operation Red Wings while aboard a Chinook helicopter that was hit by an enemy rocket-propelled grenade. Petty Officer 2nd Class received the Bronze Star w/Valor. He was buried at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Los Angeles, California.

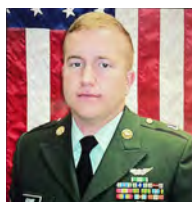
"It is hard to believe that twenty years have passed since Operation Red Wings. On that mission I lost my son, Navy SEAL LT Michael P. Murphy. Yet sometimes it seems like a month ago. Time does ease the loss. However, the raw devastating feeling comes back every once in a while. I miss him every day, and I thank God for my faith. The SEAL families and the Night Stalker families lost their loved ones too on that tragic day, June 28, 2005. God Bless all the brave men that jumped on that helicopter knowing the danger to try and save their brothers in harm's way. Through this tragedy over the past twenty years I have met the most decent, supportive and patriotic people. God Bless the men of "Operation Red Wings."

Maureen Murphy



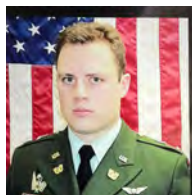
JEFFREY S. TAYLOR

Born on May 18, 1975 in Midway, West Virginia. Taylor trained as a medical corpsman and served with the Marine Corps' 2d Marine Division. This was followed by Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training and BUD/S training, Jump School and SEAL Qualification. He served with SEAL Team EIGHT at NAB Little Creek and on the USS Theodore Roosevelt. He served with SEAL Team TEN and was killed in action aboard a Chinook MH-47 that was hit by an enemy rocket-propelled grenade. Petty Officer 1st Class received the Bronze Star w/Valor. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



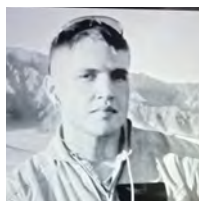
SHAMUS O. GOARE

Born on May 26, 1978 in Mount Vernon, Ohio. After completing basic training in the U.S. Army, Goare trained as a UH-1 Iroquois helicopter repairer, eventually leading to service as a UH-1 Crew Chief. After completing CH-47 Chinook Heavy Helicopter Repairer training, he served as a CH-47 Crew Chief, followed by service with the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment. He was killed aboard the Chinook helicopter hit by enemy fire during Operation Red Wings. Staff Sergeant Goare received the Meritorious Service Medal. He was buried at St. Luke's Cemetery in Danville, Ohio.



COREY J. GOODNATURE

Born on February 13, 1970 in Alber Lea, Minnesota. Initially trained as a Parachute Rigger, Goodnature went on to become a Warrant Officer, Rotary Wing Aviator and was designated Army Aviator. His first assignment was as a UH-1 Iroquois Pilot with Company C2d Battalion. He served as CH-47 pilot until 1998 and then as a MH-47 pilot. He was killed during Operation Red Wings when the MH-47 he was piloting was shot down by a rocket-propelled grenade. Chief Warrant Officer 3 Goodnature received the Meritorious Service Medal. He was buried at Graceland Cemetery in Albert Lea, Minnesota.



KIP A. JACOBY

Born on September 2, 1983 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Jacoby completed his training as a CH-47 Chinook Heavy Helicopter Repairer and assigned as an MH-47D flight engineer with the 3rd Battalion of 160th Special Operation Aviation Regiment. He was deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and was killed in action during Operation Red Wings. Sgt. Jacoby received the Bronze Star Medal.



MARCUS V. MURALLES

Born on October 5, 1971 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Muralles trained as a medical specialist. He completed airborne training followed by the Ranger Indoctrination Program. He served as a medical specialist until he left in 1993. During this time he completed Ranger School. He reenlisted to the U.S. Army. He served as a Ranger, and medical administrator. His last assignment was as a flight medic where he served until he was killed during ORW. Sgt. 1st Class Muralles received the Bronze Star Medal. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

“The 20th Anniversary of Operation Red Wings serves as a poignant reminder of the profound sacrifices made by our brothers in the SEAL and 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (SOAR) communities every day. I especially remember the eight Night Stalkers who made the ultimate sacrifice on June 28, 2005. The aviation warriors from HHC/160th and HHC/B Company, 3rd Battalion, who fearlessly flew into the heart of danger, embodied the very spirit of the “Night Stalkers Don’t Quit” motto. As one who had the distinct honor of serving alongside these incredible men, both stateside and in Afghanistan, I can attest to their unwavering dedication and exceptional skill. Their selfless actions and ultimate sacrifice will forever be etched into the annals of our unit and will never be forgotten. NSDQ!”

Major (ret) Matt Brady, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment



JAMES W. PONDER, III

Born June 24, 1969 in Birmingham, Alabama. After basic training and helicopter training, Ponder went on to become a CH-47 Crew Chief in South Korea followed by service with the 2nd Battalion of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment from 1992 until his death. He served as an MH-47 flight engineer and Crew Chief with the 160th for 13 years. He was killed in action when the helicopter he was aboard was shot down by enemy rocket-propelled grenades. MSG Ponder received the Air Medal w/Valor. He was buried at the Greenwood Cemetery in Clarksville, Tennessee.



STEPHEN C. REICH

Born May 22, 1971 in Cleveland, Ohio. A West Point graduate, he was a parachutist, graduate assistant coach at the U. S. Military Academy, Aviation officer, recruiter and Assistant Professor of Military Science. He was deployed to several countries during his military career. His final assignment was as a MH-47 pilot with the 3rd Battalion of the 160th SOAR from 2004 until he was killed in action during ORW when the helicopter he was piloting was shot down by enemy fire. Major Reich received the Bronze Star Medal.



MICHAEL L. RUSSELL

Born on September 28, 1973 in Falls Church, Virginia. After being trained as a CH-47 Chinook helicopter mechanic, he served as a Crew Chief and flight engineer with Bravo Company, 214th Regiment in Hawaii, followed by CH-47 flight engineer with Alpha company, 2nd Battalion in Colorado. His final assignment was with Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment when he was killed during ORW. Sgt. 1st Class Russell received the Bronze Star Medal. He was buried at Stafford Memorial Park in Stafford, Virginia.



CHRIS J. SCHERKENBACH

Born on November 4, 1964 in Maine Township, Illinois. He was appointed Warrant Officer in the U.S. Army. He qualified as a Chinook pilot in 1991. His first assignment as a CH-47 was with the 501st Aviation Regiment. His final assignment was with Company B, 3rd Battalion of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment. He was killed during Operation Red Wings when the MH-47 he was piloting was shot down by enemy rocket-propelled grenade. Chief Warrant Officer Scherkenbach received the Air Medal. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Editor’s Note: These profiles of the fallen are but a few words of their heroism. Please visit the LT Michael P. Murphy Navy SEAL Museum where you can view full page profiles detailing their vast careers, accomplishments, and well deserved commendations, in our interactive Memorial Book and also visit the “Operation Red Wings” exhibit hall.

CHALLENGE COIN IN HONOR OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF OPERATION RED WINGS



FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO:
www.murphsealmuseum.org/store

GROUPS WELCOMED!

We provide a group rate for any group of ten or more.

SCHOOL GROUPS of up to 135 per day are welcome. We will create a package specific for grade level, including a guided tour, Adventure Ride and viewing of "Lone Survivor" or "Murph The Protector." The LT Michael P. Murphy Navy SEAL Museum has partnered with the Arts in Education Programs of Nassau BOCES, Western Suffolk BOCES, and Eastern Suffolk BOCES.

All groups are welcome! So if you have a special group of ten or more veterans, seniors, scouts, or 10 friends, ask for a group rate. Personal tours are available also, a perfect gift for someone!

For more information about booking a group trip please email us at newsletter@murphsealmuseum.org.

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SCAN TO SIGN
UP FOR OUR
NEWSLETTER!

