

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR VETERANS MONTGOMERY COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL

ZACHARY RYAN ENDSLEY

Find a Grave:

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GSsp=46814929&GRid=20612790&>

Guest Book for [Pfc. Zachary Endsley](#)

Rowdy J. INMAN

Guest Book for [Capt. Rowdy J. Inman](#)

<http://www.iraqwarheroes.org/inman.htm>

<http://urbangrounds.com/2008/01/04/cpt-rowdy-inman/>

BREAKING NEWS* Panorama Village soldier killed in Iraq

By: Kassia Micek, Courier staff. <http://www.thecourier-online.com>

12/28/2007

Army Capt. Rowdy J. Inman, of Panorama Village, was killed Wednesday in Mosul, Iraq, according to the U.S. Department of Defense.

Inman, 38, and Army Sgt. Benjamin B. Portell, 27, of Bakersfield, Calif., died of wounds suffered from small arms fire during dismounted combat operations, according to the DOD. A Desert Storm veteran and Sam Houston State Reserve Officer Training Corps graduate, Inman was married to his wife Shannon for eight years and had two children, Keeley, 7, and Gary, 4.

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Conroe soldier killed in Iraq

By: Kassia Micek, Courier staff, <http://www.thecourier-online.com>

12/29/2007

Residents of Conroe and Montgomery are mourning the loss of a former neighbor and friend they sent off nearly one year ago who was killed while fighting in Iraq.

[Army Capt. Rowdy J. Inman](#), 38, and Army Sgt. Benjamin B. Portell, 27, of Bakersfield, Calif., were killed in Mosul, Iraq Wednesday [26 Dec 2007] by wounds they suffered from small arms fire during dismounted combat operations, the U.S. Department of Defense reported Friday afternoon. They were assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, III Corps at Fort Hood.

Inman's death marks the sixth loss this year of troops with ties to Montgomery County. A total of 13 troops, either from Montgomery County or with ties to the county, have been killed in Iraq and Afghanistan in the War on Terror.

"This is such hard news," said Ron Loftin, of the Rivershire subdivision in Conroe, a former neighbor of Inman's. "God bless him and the other members of his unit. He made the ultimate sacrifice.

"He did it, not for himself, but for the rest of us. That's the kind of guy he was."

A Desert Storm veteran and Sam Houston State University Reserve Officer Training Corps graduate, Inman was married to his wife Shannon for eight years and had two children, Keeley, 7, and Gary, 4. The family currently resides in Harker Heights, near Fort Hood.

The family left Rivershire when Inman was stationed at Fort Hood. His neighbors and friends had a small neighborhood barbecue before they left.

"One of the things he said before he left was he hoped that his next tour would be just as safe and he would come back soon," Loftin said about Inman previous tour in Iraq. "I pray for his wife and his children and the other members of his family."

The Department of Defense listed Inman's address as Panorama Village.

Inman served two tours in Iraq totaling 19 months before briefly leaving the Army. He quickly reenlisted and shipped out for this final tour in Iraq in November.

"His wife didn't want him to stay in, so he got out for about one month and then got back in," said Herman Dicus, Inman's uncle, who lives in Corpus Christi. "He liked ROTC and school. He liked it enough to go into the Army."

Inman didn't like civilian life, neighbors said.

"He loved service life," Rivershire neighbor Betty Knauf said. "He missed it when he got out, so that's why he got back in."

Rivershire neighbor Buddy Gorski saw Inman in early November, when Inman stopped by his house with another soldier before they were deployed.

"I couldn't say anything bad about him," Gorski said. "He was a great guy.

"I'd be in the front yard doing something and he'd come over and help me. I never had to ask him."

The "ultimate dad and friend," as friend Krysti Kruse described Inman, was always talking about his wife, children and his dad driving tanks.

"One of the first times we met, he showed me pictures of his family and told me how he met his wife," said Kruse, of Montgomery. "He was so in love with her."

The Army captain met his wife, Shannon, while attending SHSU, said Janet Tingle, Oak

Ridge High School head volleyball coach. Shannon graduated from ORHS.

"She played volleyball and softball for Oak Ridge," Tingle said. "She came back and taught for us and then taught at Conroe."

Shannon taught in Conroe from 1997-2000 and previously taught swimming, volleyball and softball in Klein. She coached volleyball at Montgomery High School during the 2005-06 school year.

Friend Greg Landrum, of Montgomery, met Inman while attending a MHS softball game. His daughter played on the varsity team.

"His family meant everything to him," Landrum said. "He'd do anything for you. He was just a great all-around guy."

The Inmans first left Conroe in 2001 for Colorado Springs, where Shannon became the head softball coach and assistant volleyball coach at Wasson High School.

According to Tingle, Shannon was an intense and very aggressive athlete while at ORHS.

"Rowdy was just the most wonderful guy, very supportive of Shannon and her coaching," Tingle said.

Inman was commissioned as an officer in the SHSU ROTC program in spring 2000, according to www.shsu.edu. The uniform he wore while serving in Desert Storm was on display in 2002 at the "ROTC: Celebrating 50 Years at Sam Houston State University" exhibit.

His death is the sixth military casualty this year with ties to Montgomery County

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Army Pfc. Class Cory Christian Kosters, of The Woodlands, and Army Sgt. Ryan Patrick Green, of Conroe, were killed in March. Army Cpl. Zachary Ryan Endsley, of Spring, was killed in July. Army Cpl. Brandon Smitherman, of Conroe, and Army Staff Sgt. Eric Duckworth, 26, were killed in October.

Kassia Micek can be reached at kmicek@hcnonline.com.

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CORY CHRISTINA KOSTERS

Cory Christian Kosters



PFC Cory Christian Kosters Born: 16 June 1987 in Houston, TX Killed in action, Samarra Iraq - March 05, 2007, while defending our freedom at home. Cory served in the U.S. Army 3rd Brigade, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment (P.I.R.), 82nd Airborne Division, 1st Platoon, C Company. Cory was home-schooled for nine years but graduated from The Woodlands High School. He had been a member of local Cub Scout troop 881 and Boy Scout Troop 1945 (both in The Woodlands TX). Cory accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior on January 13, 1996 at 1st Baptist Church of The Woodlands (Senior Pastor Dr. Pete Freeman) but has been a member of Crossroads Baptist Church of The Woodlands since 2000 (Pastor Larry York). Cory is survived by his Dad, Mom, and brother Marlon, Senta, and Kevin Kosters of The Woodlands TX, Grandparents Frances V. Kosters of Cypress TX, Alvin J. Kosters of Warrenton MO, Mary and Ron Simmons of Woodlake TX, and Lloyd Yeager of Conroe TX. Aunts and Uncles include Craig & Holly Kosters, Mikel Kosters, Darwin & Tammy Kosters, Brian Kosters, Marie & Woody Woodard, and John Yeager. Cousins Zachary, Hunter, Angel, Patrick, Michael, Elisabeth. Shelby, Gerrit, and Briana. Cory's family cordially invite you to a visitation on Sunday the 18th of March 2007 from four o'clock in the afternoon until seven o'clock in the evening at Crossroads Baptist Church 6565 Research Forest The Woodlands, Texas 77381. A service of remembrance and celebration for Cory's life will be at ten o'clock in the morning the 19th of March 2007 at Crossroads Baptist Church with Pastor Larry York officiating. Cory will be laid to rest with his fellow brothers at Houston National Cemetery. A college scholarship fund has been set-up in Cory's honor. Donations can be made at any Woodforest National Bank care of "Cory Kosters Memorial Scholarship Fund". An alternate fund has been established at Cory's place of worship, Crossroad Baptist Church of The Woodlands (Texas) under the name "United We Build".

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JAMES C. MURRAY

119. Army Specialist James C. Murray, Jr., 20 of Conroe.

Killed when his Bradley was hit by Iraqi fire.

Survived by his wife and daughter he had never seen.

Is remembered at: Row 13 Block 3 on The Gulf War Veterans Memorial 120.

from <http://www.desert-storm.com/soldiers/those1.html>

BRANDON SMITHERMAN

Cpl Brandon Smitherman
Metcalf Funeral & Cremations, 766-3311
11/14/2007



Funeral services for Cpl. Brandon Smitherman of Conroe will be 1 PM, Friday, Nov. 9, 2007 at The Ark Family Church in Conroe with Pastor Alan Clayton and Rev. Lee Armstrong officiating. Interment will follow at Garden Park Cemetery in Conroe. Visitation will be 5 - 9 PM on Thursday at Metcalf Funeral Home. Brandon was born Feb. 22, 1986 in Conroe and passed away Oct. 31, 2007 while honorably serving our country with the Army in Iraq. Brandon went to Conroe High School and graduated from Montgomery High School in 2004. Survivors include Mother, Teresa Smitherman of Conroe; Father, Harvey Smitherman and wife, Jody of Sherman; Sister, Adrien Smitherman of Conroe; Fiancé, Andrea Pasciak of Georgetown; Grandmother, Rita Crosby of Conroe; Niece, Mernalyn Mae Smitherman of Conroe; Godfather, Cliff Davidson of Conroe; his other family, Chauvin, Angela, Todd & Toby Cassidy of Montgomery, and numerous other relatives. His grandmother, Helen Smitherman, preceded Brandon in death. Honorary pallbearers are Brody, Gary, Miguel, Luis, Lulu, Luis G., Chauvin, and Chris. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Cpl. Brandon William Smitherman Memorial Fund, account #1072800 at First Bank of Conroe. To leave a tribute in Brandon's honor, please visit www.mem.com.

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<http://www.thecourier-online.com>*

World War I

FIRST DEATHS IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, TEXAS

Submitted by: [Elaine Walton Lewis](#)

From: [Conroe Courier](#)

LEE McCOWAN

First Conroe Death At Front In France – Lee McCowan, colored one of the draft soldiers, died on May 3rd in France of pneumonia after being accidentally wounded. So far as known, this is the first death of a Montgomery county soldier on the front. McCowan's people live in Conroe and he is supposed to have had \$10,000 life insurance. *Conroe Courier - May 9, 1918*

EARL Hicks

EARL Hicks Dies at Sea; Wounded In France – Earl P. Hicks in, so far as it is known, the first white man of Montgomery County to yield up the noble sacrifice of his life on the fields of France in defense of liberty. He was wounded in action and died at sea on the way home. Full particulars of his death have not been sent to the family.

Mr. J. H. Hicks, brother of Earl, received a telegram last Friday stating that the body had arrived at Hoboken, N. J. and would be sent home if desired. Mr. Hicks wired to have the body sent to Willis and it arrived there yesterday afternoon. The funeral was to be held today.

Earl Hicks was 21 years old and enlisted in the National Guard in Conroe last year. *Conroe Courier* – July 11, 1918