



Sergeant Benjamin Victor Brand, US Army
101st Airborne Division “Screaming Eagles”

Sgt Benjamin Brand was born in Renton, WA on March 7, 1988. He was creative and was interested wood crafts, gardening, cooking and sewing. He was active in 4-H and received many ribbons for his accomplishments. He played soccer as a forward and dreamed of playing professionally. He graduated as the Valedictorian from Clallam Bay High in June of 2006 and received his AA from Peninsula College 2 weeks later.

Benjamin enlisted in the Army in 2006 and left for boot camp in August. In April, 2007 after completing advance training he was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division “Screaming Eagles” at Ft Campbell, Kentucky. Shortly after that he received his wings to become their youngest Blackhawk Crew Chief. In January of 2008 he deployed to Afghanistan for one year. While there he became known for his ability to fix just about anything electronic!

In June 2009 he was transferred to Camp Zama in Japan. While stationed there he spent time in Okinawa, Thailand, and the Philippines. In February, 2011 he married Natsuko Shimiano. They had only been married a few weeks when the tsunami hit Japan. Benjamin worked with the Ninjas to help rescue the Japanese. He was then sent to the Philippines to help with the mission there.

Benjamin had plans to go to the University of Washington in the fall of 2012 to study robotics after his tour was up. He had a promising future ahead and was looking forward to life in the Seattle area. Benjamin Brand’s future was cut short when he was killed in a motorcycle accident on December 14, 2011. He was posthumously promoted from Corporal to Sergeant.

