



### **Sargent Charles E Matheny IV, US Army**

#### **IRAQI ENDURING FREEDOM 2006**

**Sargent Charles “Charlie” E Matheny IV** was a member of the 704<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Battalion, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry “Iron Horse” Division and proudly served his country for 6 years. On Charlie’s second deployment to Iraq he was attached to the 3rd Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment, "Hounds of Hell," and was embedded with the 6th Iraqi Army as part of a Military Transition Team (MiTT) training Iraqi Troops. On February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006 he volunteered to support a dangerous convoy into Sadr City where he was killed by an Explosively Formed Penetrator (EFP) projectile that struck his vehicle. Charles’ military awards include the Purple Heart and Bronze Star medals.

Sargent Matheny IV comes from a family steeped in military history and service. Charlie’s parents met while both served in the “Iron Horse” Division over 30 years ago. His dad, Charles Matheny III, was assigned to the Army’s laser guided missile program during the early 70’s. His maternal grandfather turned 17 on a troop transport going to Guadalcanal as a Marine during WWII. After the war his grandfather returned home but later enlist in the Army as a Medic for a Korea. He returned home again only to join the Air Force to serve during Vietnam. His paternal grandfather, Charles Matheny II, a Fighter pilot in WWII, won the Distinguished Flying Cross while piloting the Sigma Nu Girl during the Battle of the Bulge. Charles Matheny Sr was one of the first Naval Submariners.

Charlie grew up in Washington and was a graduate of Arlington High School. He was interested in botany and active in Future Farmers of America (FFA) where he worked on hybrid begonias. His goal was to someday major in Botany and try to figure out how to feed all the people in the world.

