



U.S. ARMY SPECIAL FORCES **COMMAND (AIRBORNE)** ***BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH***

U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
FORT BRAGG, NC 28310 / (910) 432-6005 / <http://news.soc.mil>

SGT. 1ST CLASS ADRIAN M. ELIZALDE **Killed in action on August 23, 2007** **Operation Iraqi Freedom**

Sgt. 1st Class Adrian M. Elizalde, 30, a Special Forces engineer assigned to the Company C, 2nd Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) in Fort Lewis, Wash., died Aug. 23 from fatal wounds sustained when his vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device near Al Aziziyah, southeast of Baghdad, Iraq.

He was deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as a member of the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force – Arabian Peninsula.

Elizalde was born in Calif., in 1977. After initially entering military service in 1996, he was assigned as an infantryman with 3rd Bn., 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment (AIR) at Fort Bragg. He later served as a Long Range Surveillance Detachment team leader with Company D, 519th Military Intelligence Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division.



In 2004, he was selected to attend the Special Forces Qualification Course at Fort Bragg to become a Special Forces engineer. He earned the coveted “Green Beret” in 2005 and was assigned to the 1st SFG(A) at Fort Lewis, Wash., in Mar 2006.

Elizalde’s military education includes the Warrior Leaders Course, Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, Combat Life Savers Course, Long Range Surveillance Leaders Course, Basic Airborne Course, Military Free Fall Parachutist Course, and the Ranger Course.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal with “V” Device, Army Commendation Medal Second Award, Army Achievement Medal Third Award, Good Conduct Medal Third Award, National Defense Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Parachutist Badge, Military Free Fall Parachutist Badge, Ranger Tab and the Special Forces Tab.

He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Elizalde is survived by his daughter, Sydney Grace of Klamath Falls, Ore.; and also by his parents, Jorge and Teresa Elizalde of Renton, Wash.; and sister Rachel Elizalde of Renton, Wash.

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