



Sgt. 1st Class Antonio R. Rodriguez **7th Special Forces Group (Airborne)**

Sgt. 1st Class Antonio R. Rodriguez, 28, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, died February 8, 2020, from wounds sustained during combat operations in Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan.

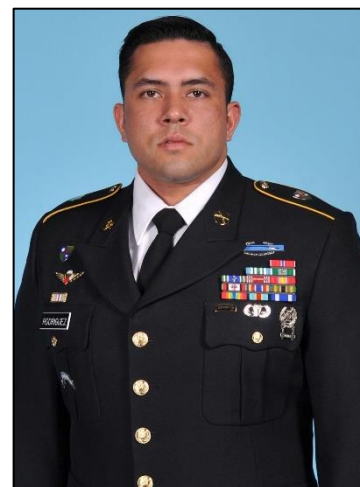
Born in Las Cruces, New Mexico, July 26, 1991, he graduated from Mayfield High School in 2009. He enlisted in the U.S. Army, October 13, 2009, and attended One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Georgia. After completing OSUT he attended the Basic Airborne Course and the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program. He was then assigned to the 3rd Ranger Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. In June 2018 Rodriguez voluntarily re-classified as a Cryptologic Linguist (Spanish).

Rodriguez deployed eight times with the 75th Ranger Regiment and twice with 3rd Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel.

He graduated from the Basic, Advanced and Senior Leader Courses; U.S. Army Airborne School; Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape School; Special Operations Language Course (Spanish); the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program and the U.S. Army Ranger School.

Rodriguez's awards and decorations include: Bronze Star Medal; Joint Service Commendation Medal; Army Commendation Medal (1OLC); Army Achievement Medal (1OLC); Army Good Conduct Medal (second award); National Defense Service Medal; Afghanistan Campaign Medal (two Campaign Stars); Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (Numeral 2); Army Service Ribbon; Overseas Service Ribbon; NATO Medal; Ranger Tab; Combat Infantry and Parachutist Badges.

Staff Sgt. Rodriguez was posthumously promoted to Sgt. 1st Class and awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart.



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