



Staff Sgt. Aaron Rhett Butler 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne)

Staff Sgt. Aaron Butler, 27, a Special Forces engineer sergeant assigned to 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne), died Aug. 16, 2017, in Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan, from injuries sustained from an improvised explosive device.

A native of Monticello, Utah, Butler enlisted in the U.S. Army in April 2008. He completed Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training as a combat engineer, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He was then assigned to Charlie Company, 1457th Engineer Battalion, Blanding, Utah. In June 2015, he transferred to 1st Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) Operations Detachment, Lehi, Utah.



Butler graduated with honors, Jan. 14, 2016, from the Special Forces Qualification Course, and was assigned to Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 19th SFG (A), Camp Williams, Utah, as a Special Forces engineer sergeant. He mobilized in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel, April 1, 2017.

His military education includes the Combat Engineer Course, Airborne School, Special Forces Qualification Course, Special Forces Engineer Sergeant Qualification Course (Distinguished Honor Graduate), Basic Special Operations Language Training (French), Advanced Leader Course, and Military Free Fall Parachutist Course.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (2), Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, Special Forces Tab, Military Free Fall Parachutist Badge, and Parachutist Badge.

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