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Staff Sgt. Mark R. de Alencar 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne)

Staff Sgt. Mark R. de Alencar, a Special Forces weapons sergeant assigned to 1st Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), died April 8, in Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan, from a combat related incident.

de Alencar was born April 1, 1980, in a U.S. Army hospital in Nuremburg, Germany. Due to his father's military service, he grew up in multiple locations, to include Germany, San Antonio, Texas, and Edgewood, Maryland. He graduated in 1998 from Joppatowne High School, Joppa, Maryland.

de Alencar joined the U.S. Army in July 2009, and graduated from the Special Forces Qualification Course as a weapons sergeant in September 2016. He was assigned to Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.



de Alencar's military education includes Basic Leaders Course, Advanced Leaders Course, Jungle Operations Course, Ranger School, Airborne School, Air Assault School, Special Forces Qualification Course, Survival Evasion Resistance, and Escape School.

His awards and decorations include the Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal (5 OLC), Army Achievement Medal (6 OLC), Meritorious Unit Citation, Army Good Conduct Medal (2), National Defense Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal with 2 Stars, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (2), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (3), Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Special Forces Tab, Ranger Tab, Basic Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge and the Drivers Badge.

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