



**U.S. ARMY CIVIL AFFAIRS AND PSYCHOLOGICAL**  
**OPERATIONS COMMAND (AIRBORNE)**  
***BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH***

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

**1<sup>ST</sup> SGT. CHRISTOPHER D. COFFIN**  
**Died on July 1, 2003**  
**Operation Iraqi Freedom**

1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Christopher D. Coffin was a company first sergeant assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 352<sup>nd</sup> Civil Affairs Command, an Army Reserve unit based in Riverdale Park, Md.

He was killed in Baghdad, Iraq on July 1, 2003. He was the first Army Reserve civil affairs Soldier killed in combat since the Vietnam War.

Coffin, a resident of Kennebunk, Maine, was born on July 8, 1951. In civilian life, he worked at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in New Hampshire.

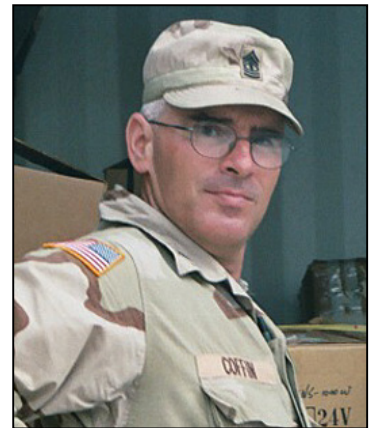
Coffin graduated from Summerville High School in Summerville, N.J., in 1969 and joined the Army on June 29, 1971. He enlisted as an armor crewman and served with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 33rd Armor in Europe.

In August 1974, he joined the Army Reserve and was later assigned as a tank commander to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 6th Battalion, 68th Armor, Bethlehem, Pa. In 1981, he graduated from Rider College in New Jersey.

Prior to his promotion to first sergeant, Coffin served as a civil affairs detachment sergeant with the 404th Civil Affairs Battalion, Fort Dix, N.J.

His awards include the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon and the Army Service Ribbon.

Coffin is survived by his wife, Betsy G. Coffin of Bethlehem, Pa., and his mother, Mary H. Coffin, of Summerville, N.J.



- BY SWORD, DEED AND WORD -