



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

*USACAPOC (A) Public Affairs Office, Fort Bragg, N.C. 28310
(910) 432-2035 / www.usacapoc.army.mil*

Maj. Alan Johnson
Died on Jan. 26, 2007
Operation Iraqi Freedom

Maj. Alan Johnson was born on Dec. 30, 1962, in North Dakota. He was a trained civil affairs officer assigned to the 402nd Civil Affairs Battalion, Tonawanda, N.Y.

He died from wounds sustained when his team encountered an improved explosive device near Muqadiyah, Iraq. Johnson deployed to Iraq in support of the Global War on Terrorism in 2006.

A resident of Yakima, Wash., Johnson graduated from Montpelier High School, N.D. Upon graduation, he entered into a five-year tour with the N.D. Army National Guard Oct. 31, 1980, specializing in engineering. Then Staff Sgt. Johnson earned his commission as a second lieutenant in 1986.



His first unit of assignment as a newly-commissioned officer was Company Alpha, 141st Engineer Combat Battalion, Jamestown, N.D., where he served as an engineer platoon leader. He commanded the platoon for approximately one year before he sought reassignment to the Washington state Army National Guard's 303rd Armor Regiment. Johnson held various positions within several of the Regiment's units such as scout platoon leader, air operations officer, tactical intelligence officer, executive officer and company commander.

In February 1999, he assumed command of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 161st Infantry Regiment (Mechanized), Kent, Wash. One year later, he transferred to the 420th Chemical Battalion, Yakima, Wash., to become the operations officer and then eventually the detachment commander.

Johnson returned to the 303rd Armor Regiment December 2000, where he served as a battalion supply officer before transferring to the 81st Infantry Brigade (Mechanized), Seattle, Wash., to work as a logistics officer. After 23 years of serving in the U.S. Army National Guard, Johnson transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve's 70th Regional Readiness Command, headquartered in Fort Lawton, Wash. He was assigned to the 476th Chemical Battalion, Seattle, Wash., as a chemical officer.

Near the end of 2005, Johnson was reassigned to the 402nd Civil Affairs Battalion, Tonawanda, N.Y., a subordinate unit of the U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command (Airborne). He mobilized and deployed to Iraq in April 2006 with the 402nd CA Battalion in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

His military schools include the Combat Engineer Course, North Dakota Army National Guard Officer Candidate School, Engineer Officer Basic Course, Tank Commander's Course, Scout Platoon Leader's

Course, Armor Officer Advanced Course, Abrams Tank Transportation Training Course, Combined Arms and Services Staff School and the Civil Affairs Course (Mobilization).

His military awards included two Army Commendation Medals, Army Achievement Medal, six Army Reserve Components Achievement Medals, two National Defense Service Medals, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with silver "hourglass" device (20 years) and "M" device (mobilization) Army Service Ribbon, pistol qualification badge, N.D. National Guard Basic Training Ribbon, National Guard 20-year Service Ribbon and the Washington State Disaster Relief Ribbon. Johnson was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon and the Combat Action Badge.

In his civilian life, Johnson was employed by the Yakima County Department of Corrections as a shift sergeant. His civilian education included a bachelor's of science degree in work force education from Southern Illinois University.

Johnson is survived by his wife, Victoria, and his step-daughter Megan, both of Yakima, Wash. He is also survived by his father, Wilfred Johnson, of Montpelier, N.D.; his mother, Mary Ann Hansen, of Sanborn, N.D.; his brothers, Wayne Johnson, of Brookville, Md., Bryan Johnson, of Bozeman, Mont., Jeremy Hansen, of Eckelson, N.D.; and his sisters, Marilyn Waddington, of Harrah, Wash., and Susan Roemmich, of Spiritwood, N.D.

- By Sword, Deed and Word -