



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>

MAJ. CHARLES R. SOLTES JR.
Killed in action on Oct. 13, 2004
Operation Iraqi Freedom

Maj. Charles R. Soltes Jr., 36, was killed on Oct. 13 when his convoy was attacked with an improvised explosive device in Mosul, Iraq. He was assigned to the 426th Civil Affairs Battalion, an Army Reserve special operations unit based in Upland, Ca.

A native of Irvine, Calif., Soltes joined the 426th CA Bn. in February 2004 and served as a preventive medical officer. He deployed with the 426th in August 2004 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

He graduated from Norwich University in Northfield, Vt., with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1990 and received his doctorate in optometry from the New England College of Optometry in 1994.

Soltes joined the Army Reserve in 1990 and served on active duty as an optometrist from July 1994 to September 1999. His assignments during that time included Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas; the 168th Medical Battalion, Camp Walker, Korea; and Keller Army Community Hospital, West Point, N.Y.

He was later assigned to the 7214th Medical Support Unit, Garden Grove, Calif., while serving in the Army Reserve.

Soltes' awards and decorations include the Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon and the Army Service Ribbon.

In his civilian life, Soltes was self-employed as an optometrist in Garden Grove, Ca.

Soltes is survived by his wife, Sally; his sons, Ryan and Brandon; and his parents, Charles and Nancy Soltes.



- BY SWORD, DEED AND WORD -