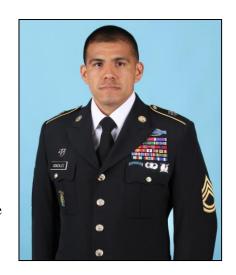
## Master Sgt. Jose J. Gonzalez 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne)

Master Sgt. Jose J. Gonzalez, 35, a U.S. Special Forces Soldier, was killed Aug. 21, 2019, during combat operations in Faryab Province, Afghanistan. Gonzalez was assigned to 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

Gonzalez, a native of La Puente, California, served 17 years in the military. He completed the Special Forces Qualification Course and was assigned to 1st Bn., 7th SFG (A), in 2014 as a Special Forces engineer sergeant.

Gonzalez deployed seven times during his career. He deployed twice as a Marine in 2003 and 2005, and as an Army infantryman in 2009. As a Green Beret, he deployed to South America in 2014 and 2018, and to Afghanistan in 2016 and 2019.



His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with Valor, Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart Medal, Army Commendation Medal (2OLC), Army Achievement Medal (3OLC), Combat Action Ribbon, Army Good Conduct Medal with four Knot Device, Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Iraq Campaign Medal with three Campaign Stars, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon with numeral "3", Overseas Service Ribbon, Navy Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, NATO Medal, Special Forces Tab, Combat Infantryman Badge, Parachutist Badge, Special Operations Diver Supervisor Badge.

Master Sgt. Jose J. Gonzalez was posthumously promoted to Master Sgt., and his posthumous awards include the Bronze Star Medal, and Purple Heart Medal.

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