



Spc. Curtis R. Spivey
(November 14, 1981 – April 2, 2007)

Curtis was born in San Diego and graduated from Hilltop High School in Chula Vista, California in 2000. He had three brothers and three step-sisters. His older brother Joey died, March 22, 2006, about a year before Curtis. Curtis was a Cavalry Scout with the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Hood Texas. Before joining the Army he served four years in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Curtis enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps in December 2000 and during his service was assigned to the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force at Twentynine Palms, California. He fought during the 2003 invasion of Iraq and also served a second combat tour in 2004. Curt left the Marine Corps in December 2004 and in February 2005 joined the U.S. Army. In November 2005, he went for his third combat tour to Iraq, returning to Chula Vista in March 2006, to help his family with his brother Joey's funeral. He then returned to Iraq.

On September 16, 2006 while on security patrol near Baghdad a roadside bomb hit his Humvee. All personnel in the vehicle were wounded. Curtis was thrown 40 feet in the air from his perch as the vehicle's rooftop gunner. His legs were shattered, his brain and chest bruised and his back broken. He was paralyzed from the waist down. After evacuation and hospitalization at Walter Reed Medical Center, he was recuperating at the VA Medical Center in La Jolla, California. His severe injuries required extensive medical procedures. After some time overcoming his injuries, he had a positive attitude and was looking forward to being able to continue life with his wife and daughter.

Curtis Spivey's brain injuries eventually caused his death. As he progressed through rehabilitation, a weakened blood vessel in his brain ruptured and could not be repaired. Survivors include his wife Aida M. Spivey and daughter Marianna A. Spivey of San Diego; parents, Joseph L. Spivey Sr. and Tania L. Spivey of Chula Vista; brother, Michael Spivey of Chula Vista; stepmother, Bernadine D. Spivey; stepsisters, Vicki DeLagrange and Rebecca Macedo of Chula Vista and Marissa Macedo of Portland, Ore.

Curtis was buried at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, with full military honors. Curtis served his country with honor and distinction. Curtis gave as President Lincoln so aptly

said, “The last full measure of devotion”, as Curtis’ many awards attest to his devotion to duty and willingness to carry out his duties.

Spc. Curtis R. Spivey’s awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, Navy and Marine Corps Presidential Unit Citation, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with a bronze star, and Combat Infantry Badge.

