



**2011**

“ Honoring the past to challenge the future”



## **RONALD A. HICKS, JR.**

Ronald is a graduate of the Class of 1989 from Plattsmouth High school. During his tenure at PHS, he played on the freshman, junior varsity and varsity football and basketball teams.

He has attended several colleges since graduation and is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in Organizational Leadership through Mountain State University in Beckley West Virginia. He will finish his degree upon his return from Iraq.

Ronald enlisted in the United States Army Reserves in March 1988, while in high school, as a 19D Cavalry Scout and then reported to basic training during the summer of 1988. After his enlistment in the Army Reserves, he then enlisted for active duty in the United States Army as a Cavalry Scout and is currently an active duty service member. He has been stationed at six duty stations, deployed three times, once to Bosnia and twice to Iraq. He has served as a Drill Instructor and Army Recruiter. During this time, he has performed numerous funeral details honoring retirees and active duty service members.

He has been promoted six times and is currently a Sergeant First Class (Senior Level Non-Commissioned Officer) and has been in the US Army for seventeen years. He is presently assigned to 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon, Apache Troop of the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment at Fort Hood, Texas. His duties and responsibilities as a platoon sergeant in the Cavalry Troop of a Regimental Armored Squadron as follows: multiple worldwide contingency missions; responsible for the welfares, morale and discipline, professional development and combat readiness of thirty soldiers; responsible for the maintenance, accountability, and readiness of six m3a3 Bradley Fighting Vehicles and associated equipment valued in excess of \$18 million dollars; and assist the platoon leader in developing lethal Scout platoon.

Ronald has received multiple achievement awards during his tenure in the Army. Awards are as follows: three Bronze Star medals for meritorious achievement in a combat zone during Operation Iraqi Freedom (2003, 2007-2009, 2010-2011), two Army Commendation Medals for superior achievement, five Army Achievement Medals, Presidential Unit Citation Award for Third Infantry Divisions spearhead into Iraq in 2003, Army Superior Unit Award, six Army Good Conduct Medals, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, two National Defense Service Medals, Korean Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal Iraq Campaign Medal with two campaign stars, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, NCO Professional Development Ribbon with the number 4 device, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Combat Action Badge, Drill Instructor Badge, Marksmanship Badge, the Bronze German Armed Forces Badge of Marksmanship and the Order of St. George Bronze Medallion. In addition, he has received twenty-five coins from commanders, received the Draper Armor Leadership Training Award, and the Henry Caro NCO Academy Certificate of Leadership. He also currently holds top secret level security clearance.

Ronald has been happily married to his wife, Pamela, for eleven years. They have two children, Tyler Benard and Cassondra Hicks. They now consider Georgetown, Kentucky their home, though they currently reside in Killeen, Texas.

In his reply to our request for information, Ronald said, "I wish to thank the Hall of Fame for allowing me to represent my class and the United States Army. It is a privilege and honor to be selected. I am looking forward to this prestigious event. The nomination alone is an honor for my family and me. They are very proud of what I am able to do for them and my country. The fact is, this is the greatest award any father, husband, and son could ask for."