Biography by the Borjas Family

Federico G. Borjas was born in Florida. He leaves behind his parents Jose & Petra Borjas, three siblings Raimundo, Ofelia & Anita and his beautiful daughter Yvette Borjas. In 1994, Federico enlisted into the United States Marine Corps, where he began a military life in Parris Island, South Carolina. In Parris Island during boot camp, Federico became Iron Man and made his whole family proud. Federico had enlisted for four years and always wanted to serve outside the United States, but never had the opportunity.

Federico took a change from military life and continued his career in law enforcement. He began his law enforcement career with the San Diego Sheriff's Department. He was given the opportunity to work in George Bailey Correctional Facility located in Otay Mesa, California. There he spent four years serving the community as a San Diego County Deputy correctional officer. Years later, he continued his law enforcement career as a San Diego Police officer.

During his first four years as a San Diego Police officer, Federico challenged himself and was determined to become the best police officer he could be. In 2003, he tested for the Special Weapons and Tactics team (SWAT) and completed the requirements to become a SWAT officer. When Federico set his mind to something, there was nothing that could stop him. He wanted a better life for his daughter, Yvette, and for their future.

Federico enjoyed his time serving the community and always looked forward to helping others. Though working 10 hour shifts, and as a father of a young child, he still couldn't find an ending to his career and accomplishments. He then looked for continuation to excel with his life's work so he returned to school for a different task. In 2004, he received a bachelor's degree from National University in Legal Studies. At this point in his life, he took a breather and gave more time back to himself and his family; especially his precious daughter.

In subsequent years, there was always something in the back of Federico's mind. He felt compelled to seek out a major goal; one that would involve sacrificing all that he had. Federico enlisted into the United States Army Reserve for a term of no less than six years. Federico was always determined to accomplish all his goals even if it meant he would sacrifice his life. He wanted to provide everything for his daughter, no matter what the cost, because she was his world. He was excited to serve his country and fight for our freedom. His daughter was his world, but he also wanted to fight for his cousin, Eric Ramirez, who lost his life five years ago in Iraq.

On September 24, 2008, Federico deployed with the "A" Company, 416th Civil Affairs Battalion as an Army Sergeant to Bermel, Afghanistan. On October 16, 2008, not even a month into his deployment, Federico Borjas was shot and killed in action at the young age of 33. Federico died a hero as a United States Army Soldier and will always be remembered in our hearts.

He was and will always be considered a son to his loving parents, a brother to his siblings, a best friend and father to his daughter Yvette, a friend and family member to everyone he knew. We will all remember Federico in our own special and loving way. To his family he will always be The American Hero. We miss you and will always love you, rest in peace.

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

Biography

USACAPOC (A) Public Affairs Office, Fort Bragg, N.C. 28310
(910) 432-7241 / www.usacapoc.army.mil

Sgt. Federico G. Borjas

Died on October 16, 2008
Operation Enduring Freedom

Sgt. Federico G. Borjas, 33, was a trained U.S. Army Reserve Civil Affairs non-commissioned officer, assigned to the 416th Civil Affairs Battalion, "A" Company, located in San Diego, Calif. The 416th CA Battalion is part of the 351st Civil Affairs Command, in Mountain View, Calif.

Borjas died on October 16, 2008, from wounds sustained when his Civil Affairs team encountered small arms fire near their base in Afghanistan.

He first entered military service in 1993, enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps, where he served for four years as a motor transport operator until March 1993.

Borjas joined the U.S Army Reserve in 2007 and was assigned to "A" Company, 416th Civil Affairs Battalion in San Diego, Calif. That same year he graduated from the civil affairs specialist course and became a civil affairs non-commissioned officer for his unit. He attended several U.S. Army schools before his deployment to Afghanistan in 2008.

His military schools included U.S. Marine Corp Recruit Training (Boot Camp), USMC Motor Transport MOS Course, Marine Corps Combat Training, U.S. Marine Reconnaissance Course, NCO Basic Non-Residential program, USMC Corporals Course, U.S. Army Warrior Leader's Course, Basic Airborne School, Civil Affairs Specialist Course, Combat Lifesavers Course, and Army Combatives Course (Level-1).

Sgt. Borjas' military awards included Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with bronze hourglass and with "M" (mobilization) device, NCO Professional Development Ribbon, and the Army Service Ribbon.

He was employed by the San Diego Police Department where he served for over 9 years.

Borjas is survived by his daughter, his mother and father, his brother, and his two sisters.

For more information media may contact the U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command (Airborne) public affairs office at (910) 432-7241 or email gonzalo.gonzalez@ar-usacapoc.soc.mil, after hours please call the IOC at (910) 432-7714.