

# SGT DAKOTA MEYER

## Medal of Honor



While serving with Marine Embedded Training Team 2-8 in Kunar Province, Afghanistan, on 8 September 2009, Corporal Dakota L. Meyer and his patrol were ambushed by more than 50 enemy fighters firing rocket propelled grenades, mortars, and machine guns. Corporal Meyer manned the machine gun in an armored HMMWV as he and a fellow Marine made a daring attempt to disrupt the enemy attack and locate a trapped U.S. team.

Disregarding intense enemy fire concentrated on their lone vehicle, Corporal Meyer killed a number of enemy fighters, some at near point-blank range, as he and his driver made repeated trips into the ambush area. They evacuated two dozen Afghan soldiers, many of whom were wounded. Despite shrapnel wounds to his arm, he made more trips into the ambush area to rescue more wounded Afghan soldiers and search for the missing U.S. servicemen. Still under heavy enemy fire, he moved on foot to recover the bodies of his fallen team members.

Corporal Meyer's daring initiative and bold fighting spirit throughout the 6-hour battle significantly disrupted the enemy's attack and inspired the members of the combined force to fight on. His unwavering courage and steadfast devotion to his U.S. and Afghan comrades in the face of almost certain death reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.