



Daniel Casey Johnson

August 7, 1990 - August 21, 2021

Daniel Casey Johnson

SPC Daniel Casey Johnson passed away unexpectedly in his home on August 21, 2021. Born

August 7, 1990 to his parents Lisa and Bob in Salt Lake City, Utah. He grew up in Millcreek,

where he attended school and earned his Eagle Scout. He married Brandi Parks on March 21,

2011 in Alaska. Together they have three beautiful children. Dan cherished his kids, and

absolutely loved sharing his hobbies with them. He was an incredibly happy and accepting kid,

which earned him the nickname Smiley. He had a unique wit that all who knew him appreciated.

His sense of humor, especially in tense times, was a Dan trademark. He was a risk-taker in

every area of his life. Dan had a passion for the outdoors. He was an avid hunter and fisherman.

He loved riding his 4 wheelers around the Utah wilderness with his family. Dan was a talented

welder who could create beautiful works of art with his skill. He was a hard worker on the

jobsite, and was loved by his coworkers.

Dan was a dedicated U.S. Soldier who served his country with the 509th Airborne Infantry

Regiment in the U.S. Army, with the rank of Specialist as a paratrooper. He bravely served one

tour in Afghanistan. Even after becoming permanently disabled, as well as battling with the

effects of PTSD, he still took great pride in his military service. He formed deep bonds with his

fellow servicemen, and found a community of love and support that he cherished.

Dan was an incredible hockey player and spent countless hours throughout his life at the ice

rink. He was a star goaltender from his youth through High School. He traveled all over the

Western United States and Canada playing. His high energy and unorthodox playing style made

him a legend to all who had the privilege of playing with him. He shared his love of hockey with

his dad and big brother Scott, which created a special bond between them.

Dan is survived by Brandi Johnson; his 3 children, Alastor, Layla, and Valorie; his parents

Robert "Bob" Johnson and Lisa (Phil) Davis; his siblings, Rachel (TJ) Peterson, Scott (Emily)

Johnson, Rick (Kenny) Sanchez, Hawkley Davis, and London Davis; his grandma Barbara

Fernley; and his beloved nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his grandparents,

Scott "Fred" (Carol) Johnson, Earl Jay Smith, Edgar Fernley; and cousin Curtis Fellows.

A visitation will be held on Sunday, September 5 from 6:00-8:00pm at Oak Hill Chapel 895 West

4800 South, Taylorsville, Utah. A memorial service will be held the next day on Monday,

September 6 at 11:00am. Memorial services will be streamed live, and details will be posted

once available. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to a memorial fund to support his three

children. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/daniel-casey-johnson-memorial-fund>

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **5**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (MT)

Oak Hill Ward
895 W 4800 S
Taylorsville, UT

Memorial Service

SEP **6**. 11:00 AM (MT)

Oak Hill Ward
895 W 4800 S
Taylorsville, UT

Tribute Wall



“ *Daniel Casey Johnson*

October 05, 2023 at 07:49 PM

TR

“ I first met Danny in 2010 when I returned from Afghanistan, and I felt an immediate friendly connection with him since he was one of only two other Utah boys besides myself that I met while in the army.

He impressed me further when we both went to the advanced combat marksmanship course together as two of six representatives from each company of the some of the best shooters in the battalion.

The final segment of the course was a shooting competition between the 24 shooters in the course: 1 shot from the standing position fired at a steel target starting from 75 meters, working back by 25 meters until everyone was eliminated.

At the end, it was Danny and I left at 325 meters. I missed the 325 shot and Danny hit it, thus winning the competition! It was a super awesome feeling having the top two of the course both be Able company guys from Utah, and it's still one of my fondest memories that I have.

I'm glad that I met Danny, and I can truly say that having known him made my life better. He shall be sorely missed.

-Tyvan

If anyone can forward me information for the digital service, I would appreciate that. tyvan.c.rollins@gmail.com

Taiven Rollins - September 03, 2021 at 05:57 PM

LD

“ I have been going through many pictures and various papers from Dannys childhood. I have wept and laughed at these momentous. I came across a story he wrote at school in third grade for me for Mother’s Day. It included crayon pictures as he told the story. It was titled *From shooter to goalie, dedicated to my mom*. He told his story about wanting to be a hockey goalie like his brother and Dad. He told of all the reasons why he should be a goalie. The only mention of me in the story was he asked me if he could be a goalie and I told him to wait until next year. Then he and his Dad went to the hockey store to buy goalie gear. Hahaha! That was my Mother’s Day gift. He was such a funny, happy boy.

Lisa Davis - September 01, 2021 at 11:37 PM

R(

“ To the Family of Daniel Johnson.

It is with sympathy, love and compassion that we send our condolences. May his service always be honored and remembered as his tribute to a greatful nation. Our young men served a war that they only heard of before they were born or grew up hearing about an atrocity that has provided a nation of un-numbered heroes. The sacrifice of war and the coming home as different man or women will be written about in years to come. May we encourage those that are troubled to remember that our selfless service will not be forgotten but will be treasured as a sacrifice to a country that has endured greatness because of your sacrifice. May God take this great warrior into his arms and welcome him into the Post Everlasting of service members that have served a God that is loving, compassionate and knows the goodness of our hearts. Daniel will not be forgotten but will dwell among the elite Angels of eternity..

We send our condolences and appreciation for his service. May we celebrate his life of service.

For God, Family and Country

Randy D. Edwards CSM (R)

Randy D. Edwards CSM (R) - September 01, 2021 at 11:26 PM

JC

“ According to Dan, this sculpture was the first one he made. "From the Silence" is what he called it. The following was the script from the display at the all-Veteran art exhibit at the Utah State Capitol.

Born and raised in Salt Lake City, Dan graduated high school early through a welding program at Weber Basin Job Corporation. He joined the military because he wanted to be a paratrooper like his idol Jimi Hendrix.

Regarding his time in the service, he is most proud of the brave heroes that he was lucky enough to serve a long side with. Dan deployed to multiple difficult locations, most notable was to Afghanistan in 2011-2012. His primary duties during your deployment were to serve as a Squad Designated Marksman (SDM) and infantry Team leader.

It is the coming home from deployment that Dan struggles with, as he says very honest and straight-forward, "The person who left to serve in combat never came home. No matter how much you train physically and mentally, to prepare yourself to serve in a combat zone, you'll never come home, at least not all of you. Some part of it is still there, which almost makes me feel like I still haven't come home; or at all."

Welding and creating his art have aided in his recovery and mental health, by helping his idle hands and gives his wandering mind something to focus on. Along with his art, Dan is an avid archer and ice hockey player. All these activities give him something to do rather than self-medicate with harmful substances and have aided in recovery.

His metal sculpture in this exhibit depicts a background, where you see beautiful mountains, but the Paratrooper is executing a tree landing into the dead forest in the foreground. The foreground represents the "Glory Days" behind him, whilst finding himself in an unknown, chaotic future. This piece represents Dan's transition

incarnate.

Daniel currently works as a Foreman of an Ironworker crew and is a full-time single dad to three amazing children. His goals are to, just keep breathing, and to keep working to transition into the civilian world.

In addition I would like to add that he loved his daughters. I got to meet them once when he was helping a fellow Veteran move; he was always volunteering to help others. But I saw how he spoke to an interacted with his daughters... It was so heartwarming to see. May God Bless him and his family that will go forward with him in their hearts.

Till Valhalla Soldier.

*-Julia Watson Carlson
MSgt, USMC (Ret), & VTC Mentor Coordinator*

Julia Carlson - August 31, 2021 at 11:00 AM

JC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Julia Carlson - August 31, 2021 at 10:53 AM