

**MISSISSIPPI ARMY
NATIONAL GUARD
MEMORIAL CEREMONY**

**CW4 DEREK ABBOTT
&
CW4 BRYAN ZEMEK**



**THE ORCHARD CHURCH
27 APRIL 2024
9:00 A.M.
1379 NORTH COLEY RD,
TUPELO, MS 38801**

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

PRELUDE	41st Army Band
WELCOME	CH (LTC) Bird
NATIONAL ANTHEM	
INVOCATION	CH (CPT) Porter
MEMORIAL TRIBUTES	LTC Birmingham CPT Gunnels LTC Bitner CPT Sullivan
REMARKS	The Honorable Tate Reeves <i>Governor of Mississippi</i>
DISTINGUISHED VISITOR OPEN OPPORTUNITY	
SCRIPTURE READING	<i>Psalm 23</i>
MEMORIAL MEDITATION	CH (LTC) Bird
BENEDICTION	
LAST ROLL CALL	1SG Justin Werner A Co. 1-149th AV 1SG Paul Elliott D Co. 1-151st AV
FIRING OF THE VOLLEYS	Honor Guard
SOUNDING OF TAPS	
INDIVIDUAL HONORS	

HIGH FLIGHT

by John Gillespie Magee Jr.

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
of sun-split clouds,—and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of—wheeled and soared and swung

High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air ...

Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark nor ever eagle flew—
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.



CW4 Derek Joshua Abbott

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Derek Joshua Abbott began his military career on Dec. 27, 2002, when he enlisted in Tupelo, Mississippi, as a private in Company D, 1st Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment, Mississippi Army National Guard. Promoted to private second class the following month and transferring to Troop E, 1st Squadron, 104th Cavalry Regiment, Abbott went on to Advanced Individual Training, becoming a 15R – AH-64 Attack Helicopter Repairer upon graduation in October 2003. He quickly rose through the ranks, promoting to private first class in November 2003, specialist in January 2004, and after spending some time in Troop D, 1-104th, he transferred back to Troop E and promoted to sergeant in July 2004.

While serving in Troop E, 1-104th, Abbott attended Warrant Officer Candidate School, graduating on April 29, 2005, and pinning the rank of warrant officer one. Abbott's first assignment as a warrant officer was with Troop E as an AH-64A Apache Pilot. He deployed to Iraq in August 2006, continuing to serve as an Apache pilot. It was during this deployment when Abbott earned the Air Medal with Valor for his actions on April 7, 2007. The award narrative reads, in part:

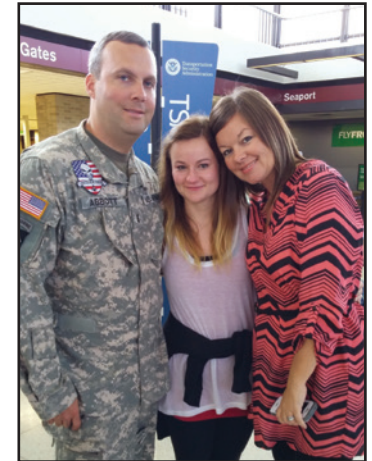
"For exceptionally valorous achievement during air operations supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom on 7 April 2007 at Diwaniyah, Iraq. WO1 Abbott's willingness to place himself in harms way to protect his fellow Soldiers was beyond the call of duty. He continued to provide protection to the lead aircraft despite having received battle damage to his aircraft."

Abbott's other assignments included Aircraft Armament Maintenance Officer and Aviation Maintenance Officer with Company C, 1st Battalion, 151st Aviation Regiment; Aviation Maintenance Officer with Company A, 1st Battalion, 149th Aviation Regiment; Maintenance Test Flight Evaluator with Detachment 1, Company B, 834th Aviation Support Battalion; Aviation Maintenance Officer and Aircraft Armament Maintenance Officer with Company A, 1st Battalion, 149th Aviation Regiment; Aviation Maintenance Officer with Company A, 1108th Theatre Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group in Gulfport; and Aviation Safety Officer for Company D of the 2d Battalion, 151st Lakota Medical Evacuation unit in Tupelo. He most recently served as a Maintenance Test Pilot with 2d Battalion, 151st Aviation Regiment – Lakota Medical Evacuation.

Abbott's awards and decorations include the Air Medal with "V" device and numeral 2; Meritorious Service Medal (Posthumous); Army Commendation Medal with 2 bronze oak leaf clusters; Army Achievement Medal; Army Good Conduct Medal; Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal with 2 bronze oak leaf clusters; Iraq Campaign Medal with one campaign star; Mississippi Magnolia Cross (Posthumous); the Senior Army Aviator Badge; the Combat Action Badge; and many other decorations and state awards.

Dates of rank:

PV1- 27 Dec. 2002
PV2- 31 Jan. 2003
PFC- 3 Nov. 2003
SPC- 3 Jan. 2004
SGT- 4 July 2004
WO1- 29 April 2005
CW2- 3 May 2007
CW3- 12 Aug. 2011
CW4- 29 May 2018
CW5- 23 Feb. 2024
(Posthumous)





CW4 Bryan Andrew Zemek

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Bryan Andrew Zemek began his military career on Sept. 3, 2004, when he enlisted in Tupelo, Mississippi, as an Aviation Operations Specialist in Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 185th Aviation Regiment, Mississippi Army National Guard.

On March 4, 2010, Zemek was transferred to Detachment 1, 1st Battalion, 149th Aviation Regiment before attending Warrant Officer Candidate School (WOCS). After graduating from WOCS on May 10, 2010, he was appointed Warrant Officer One the following day. Zemek completed 152H, AH-64D (Apache) Attack Pilot Warrant Officer Basic Course on Jan. 1, 2012.

Zemek deployed overseas in support of Operation Inherent Resolve with Special Operations Detachment South on March 19, 2021, where he continued his performance as an AH-64D Apache Pilot. His overseas service during this period included Kuwait from May 20, 2021 to June 19, 2021; Syria from June 20, 2021 to July 10, 2021; again in Kuwait from July 11, 2021 to July 21, 2021; Iraq from July 22, 2021 to Jan. 19, 2022; and concluded his overseas deployment in Kuwait from Jan. 20, 2022 to Feb. 1, 2022.

Zemek served in several positions while assigned to Company A, 1st Battalion, 149th Aviation Regiment, including Aviation Mission Survivability Officer, Aircraft Mission Survivability Officer Instructor Pilot, Aviation Standardization Officer, Close Air Support Advisor and Standardization Instructor Pilot.

Zemek's awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Meritorious Service Medal (Posthumous); Army Commendation Medal with two bronze oak leaf clusters; Army Achievement Medal; Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal with one bronze oak leaf cluster; National Defense Service Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Non Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M device and bronze hourglass; Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal with one campaign star; Mississippi Magnolia Cross (Posthumous); Mississippi Medal of Efficiency; Mississippi War Medal; Mississippi Service School Medal; Mississippi Longevity Medal; the Army Aviator Badge and Basic Aviation Badge.



Dates of rank:

PV1- 3 Sept. 2004
PV2- 9 Jan. 2005
PFC- 10 Jan. 2005
SPC- 3 Sept. 2005
SGT- 12 Aug. 2009
WO1- 11 May 2010
CW2- 29 May 2012
CW3- 2 May 2018
CW4- 22 Dec. 2023
CW5- 23 Feb. 2024
(posthumous)



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“You’ve been cleared for final approach...”

In honor of Chief Warrant Officer 4, Bryan Andrew Zemek and
Chief Warrant Officer 4, Derek Joshua Abbott



THANK YOU
FOR ATTENDING