



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release  
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### **ARMY MASTER SGT. GEORGE A. BANNAR JR. KILLED IN COMBAT**

Orange County, VA – The County is saddened to announce that on August 20, 2013, Army Master Sgt. George A. Bannar Jr. of Orange County died in combat in Afghanistan, according to the Department of Defense.

Bannar Jr., 37, was killed Tuesday when enemy forces attacked his unit with small arms fire in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. He was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group, Fort Bragg, N.C., military officials said. This was his fifth deployment to Afghanistan.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with Valor Device, Meritorious Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal with Valor Device, Army Commendation Medal (3), Army Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Army Good Conduct Medal (5), National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with three Campaign Stars, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (3), Army Service Ribbon, NATO Medal, Expert Field Medical Badge, Air Assault Badge, Canadian Parachutist Badge, Royal Netherlands Army Parachutist Badge, Venezuelan Parachutist Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Military Free Fall Jumpmaster Badge, Combat Medical Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge and the Special Forces Tab.

He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

Orange County flags will remain at half staff until Mr. Bannar's services have concluded in an effort to honor the dedication he exuded while fighting for "Operation Enduring Freedom."

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