

Andrew J. Creighton Memorial Scholarship

Andrew James Creighton, known by all as A.J., was born in Galveston, Texas, on July 24, 1986. He was raised in Cuero, Texas, until the end of his freshman year of high school. At that time, he moved to Sussex County, Delaware, where he graduated from Sussex Technical High School (STHS) in 2004. A.J. was intelligent and excelled academically in science, technology, and math, but it was while attending STHS that he developed a love for music, playing baritone, tuba, and trumpet in band. On September 11, 2001, he decided the protection of his country was his personal responsibility. He enlisted in the United States Army straight out of high school and loved it. Aspiring to serve in Special Forces, A.J. attended the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center for two years training to be a translator and interrogator. Eventually, A.J. served as a Signals Intelligence Specialist with the 1st Special Forces Group at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Fort Lewis, Washington. He was known by his fellow servicemen as a “jack of all trades” and an innovative problem solver. He was passionate and didn’t take a moment for granted.

When trying to cross a river while conducting combat operations in Oruzgan Province in Afghanistan in 2010, A.J. was pulled under the current and swept away. His body was recovered three days later on the Fourth of July. A.J. was aware of the risks involved with serving his country but tried not to lose perspective of why he enlisted in the Army and, subsequently, went to war. A.J. was awarded two Army Commendation Medals and the Bronze Star for his service in the Philippines and Afghanistan, and he was buried with full military honors at Houston National Cemetery. In 2021, the Texas House of Representatives approved the renaming of a highway in Dickinson, Texas, where A.J.’s maternal grandparents put down roots in 1975, as the Andrew J. Creighton Memorial Highway. A.J. is remembered as an American hero.

To honor his memory, A.J.’s family and friends established the Andrew J. Creighton Memorial Scholarship, which is awarded annually to a Cuero High School graduating senior who has exhibited excellence in as well as a passion for music because as the saying goes, “Once A Gobbler, Always A Gobbler.”



SGT ANDREW JAMES CREIGHTON
24 July 1986 – 4 July 2010
OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM