



Cpl. Joshua D. Pickard

May 21, 1986 – December 19, 2006

U.S. Marines

October 26, 2004 – December 19, 2006

Served in:

Iraq

Cpl. Joshua D. Pickard



Age: 20
Hometown: Merced, CA
Date of Death: 12/19/2006
Incident Location: Anbar
province, Iraq

Branch of Military: Marines
Rank: Cpl.
Unit: 2nd Assault
Amphibian Battalion,
2nd Marine Division,
II Marine
Expeditionary Force
Unit's Base: Camp Lejeune,
North Carolina

Debbie Johnston once came home to a house covered in toilet paper. A seventh and eighth grade teacher, she also happened to live next to Joshua D. Pickard. Pickard told her the next day that he'd heard about the TP incident. "I said, "Yeah, Josh, what do you know about that?" Johnston said. "He just grinned that grin of his." Pickard, 20, of Merced, Calif., was killed December 19 by small-arms fire in Anbar province. He was a 2004 high school graduate and was assigned to Camp Lejeune. Pickard, who started at defensive tackle in high school, wasn't the best player in the world, said his former football coach John Denno, but made up for it with tenacity. Pickard treated every practice as if it were a title game. "What others perceived as work, he perceived as enjoyment," Denno said. Laurie Bazan said she had known Pickard since he was 8. Even as a young child he was a most respectful and responsible young man. "He was always caring about others. He was just an exemplary young man who will be very missed. He was friends with everybody and always had a kind word to say," Bazan said. He is survived by his parents, Larry and Terri.