ALWAYS REMEMBER

LCpl Matthew P. Pathenos 21 - Ballwin, Missouri



KIA - February 7, 2007

LCpl Pathenos joined the Marines after "hearing the call" on Sept.11, 2001 to defend our country. He was a true American hero who gave his life courageously defending freedom. Despite a high casualty rate in his unit, LCpl Pathenos enthusiastically volunteered to be attached directly to an infantry company. Due to his maturity and intellect, he was chosen as the company Executive Officer's personal radio operator and driver through the dangerous streets of downtown Fallujah. His personal awards include the Purple Heart Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon.

More than a selfless Marine, LCpl Pathenos was a loving son, brother, and friend. As one of his fellow marines reflected after his tragic passing, the best thing about Matt was his ability to wake up in Fallujah every day with a smile and hold it all day. Even while in the midst of combat and tragic personal loss, Lance Corporal Pathenos strove to bring joy to his fellow Marines and friend



