

LTC Daniel Edward Holland (43), beloved husband, father, son, and brother, died May 18th, 2006 while serving his country in Iraq. Daniel was an Army veterinarian, assigned to South Plains District Veterinary Command at Ft. Hood, TX, attached to the 352nd Civil Affairs Command at Fort Bragg, NC, further attached to the 4th Infantry Division as the Chief of the Public Health and Functional Specialty Teams for Civil Affairs. He and three other soldiers along with an Iraqi interpreter were killed by a roadside bomb near Baghdad while on a humanitarian mission to aid the people of Iraq.

Daniel is survived by his wife Sheryl, son Garrett, and daughter Rachel of Boerne, TX, parents Col. (Ret.) and Mrs. Herbert S. Holland, Jr., of San Antonio, parents-in-law Bancker and Lana Cade of Boerne, brothers and sisters (and their spouses): Col. (Ret.) Robert F. Holland (Carol) of Houston, Mark M. Holland (Josie) of Houston, Patricia Nixon (Thomas) of Oklahoma City, David W. Holland (MaryAnn) of New Braunfels, Mary K. Ralya (Steven) of Brenham, TX, Major (Ret.) John R. Holland (Rita) of Minneapolis, Claire Nieswiadomy (Michael) of Denton, TX, Catherine Ochoa (Joseph) of New Braunfels, and Elizabeth Blute (Peter) of Houston, sister-in-law Kellie Robinson of Boerne, and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Daniel was born in Munich, Germany on April 5th, 1963, the youngest of 10 children, into a military family, moving several times. His father retired in Marlow, Oklahoma and Daniel became a farm boy at the age of 11, where he began to develop his love for the country life. He graduated from Marlow High School in 1981, where he was selected to give the commencement address, entered Oklahoma State University on an ROTC scholarship, transferring after three years into OSU's College of Veterinary Medicine. His dreams were realized when he was commissioned as an officer in the United States Army in 1984 and when he received a DVM degree in 1988. He and Sheryl Patton were married in August 1985 in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

Daniel had many interests, but his favorite times were spent with his wife and his "munchkins", helping them develop their love of animals and the outdoor life. One of his recent pleasures was taking his son on his first hunting trip. The joy of seeing his daughter win Grand Champion hog at the County Fair was indescribable. He, Rachel and Garrett spent hours reading, playing games, and tending to their animals. Other interests included hunting, fishing, country and western music and dancing, trips to Las Vegas, sports, and travel, to more than 40 countries. Dan was a devout Catholic. He loved living in Texas, which allowed frequent visits with family.

LTC Holland's 21-year career in the military included tours in Germany, Bosnia, Honduras, and Haiti, where he was able to use his Masters Degree in Public Health. His love for animals and his compassion for people of all nations were profound. For this reason the family requests that memorial contributions be made to The Christian Veterinary Mission www.christianvetmission.org (206-546-7569) or any fund that supports wounded soldiers.

LTC Holland's military decorations include four awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, and the Humanitarian Service Medal, and he was proud to have earned the Expert Field Medical Badge and Parachutist Badge. He will be awarded the Purple Heart posthumously.

Daniel will be buried with full military honors at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery on Wednesday May 31, following a noon funeral Mass at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in New Braunfels, TX. There will be visitation from 5:00-6:30pm Tuesday evening, May 30, followed immediately by a Rosary service at Zoeller Funeral Home in New Braunfels.

Daniel will be remembered for his warm and outgoing personality, his love of God and family, his dedicated service to our great country, and the way he always made people laugh when it came time to say goodbye, because he'd smile and say "Glad you got to see me!" He will be greatly missed.