



Building Homes for Heroes

Army Sergeant Brent Hernandez



Naples, Florida





Sergeant Brent Hernandez



Hero Story

On April 9, 2010, Army Sergeant Brent Hernandez of the 75th Ranger Regiment, a Special Operations light infantry elite unit, was severely wounded just 13 days into his unit's deployment in the Zabul Province of Afghanistan when his aircraft, an Air Force CV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor, crashed. An Osprey is an aircraft that takes off and lands vertically like a helicopter and flies like a plane by tilting its wing-mounted rotors to function as propellers. Its flexibility, speed, range, and efficiency enables the osprey to perform such missions as troop/cargo transport, amphibious assault, special operations, and search and rescue operations.

While in flight, the aircraft had a 17 mph tailwind. Due to the speed of the aircraft and the tailwind, the aircraft overshot its landing and hit the ground at about 90 miles per hour. The aircraft is designed to land at approximately 10 miles per hour.

Upon impact, the landing gear collapsed and the aircraft flipped over before coming to a halt about 500 meters away. The aircraft caught fire and its wings broke off. The pilot, flight engineer, an Army Ranger, and a civilian contract employee were killed, and 16 were wounded. Hernandez was unconscious for a period of time. When he regained consciousness, the aircraft was upside down and Sgt. Hernandez was suspended by his safety line. His sniper partner cut him down and carried Hernandez approximately 100 meters away from the aircraft where he received medical attention while awaiting the medevac.

Due to the severity of his injuries, doctors didn't believe Hernandez would survive. He was told by doctors that someone was looking out for him, because they had never seen someone survive with the severity of internal injuries that he sustained. Hernandez had his intestines ripped through his abdominal wall, three small bowel resections, two traumatic hernias, oblique muscles ripped in half and separated from spine, three fractured ribs, a collapsed lung, two fractured vertebrae, TBI and PTSD.

Sgt. Hernandez, who completed both Ranger and Sniper school, and was deployed as a sniper at the time of the incident, earned the Army Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal (2x), National Defense Service Ribbon, Global War on Terrorism Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Army Ranger Tab, Combat Infantry Badge, and the Army Parachutist Badge.

Hernandez, his wife Katy, and daughters Makannah and Annastyn would like to reside in Harris County, Georgia.





Sergeant Brent Hernandez

Hero Story



Sergeant Brent Hernandez in training at Fort Campbell.





Sergeant Brent Hernandez

Hero Story



Brent Hernandez and 15 others were wounded when their CV-22 Osprey crashed in Afghanistan. The pilot, flight engineer, an Army Ranger, and a civilian contract employee were killed.





Sergeant Brent Hernandez

Hero Story



Doctors did not expect Sergeant Hernandez to survive.





Sergeant Brent Hernandez

Hero Story



Hernandez with daughter Makennah.



Hernandez with daughter Annastyn.





Sergeant Brent Hernandez

Hero Story



Makennah and Anastyn Hernandez





Sergeant Brent Hernandez

Hero Story



Brent & Katy Hernandez

