



Building Homes for Heroes

Army Specialist Andrew Toppin



Spring, Texas (Houston area)





Specialist Andrew Toppin



Hero Story

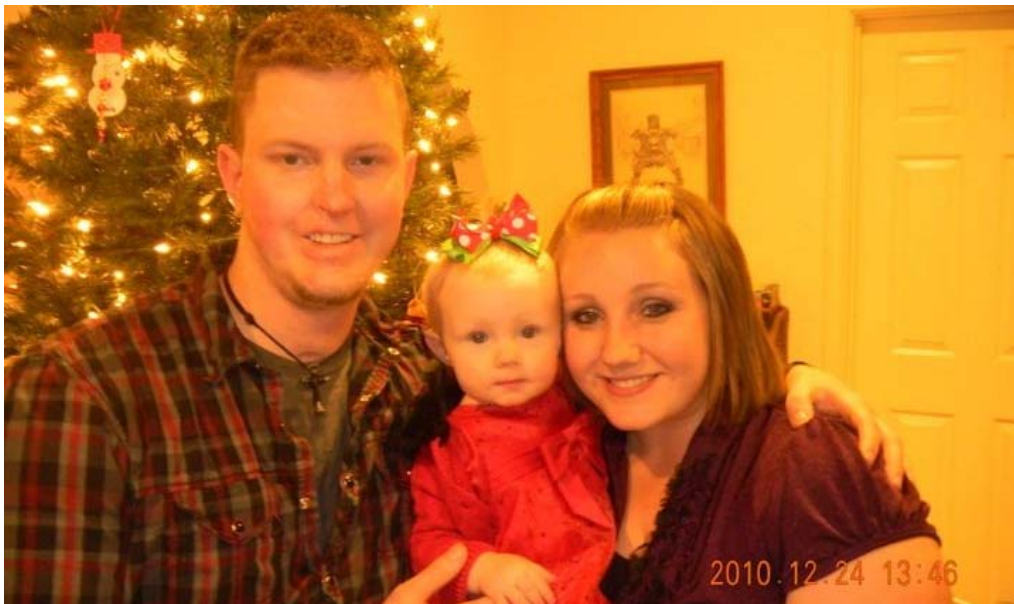
On December 12, 2009, Army Specialist Andrew Toppin, 4th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division - the Raiders, was driving the lead Humvee in a four-vehicle convoy in Iraq when the vehicle was struck by an explosively formed penetrator. The vehicle immediately caught fire. Despite the explosion, Specialist Toppin was able to bring the vehicle to a stop, and attempt to get himself out of the burning vehicle and away from the scene. He collapsed as he exited the vehicle due to severe fractures to his legs.

Toppin's team leader pulled him away from the vehicle, and his squad applied tourniquets to his legs and called for medevac. He was rushed to the field hospital at the Balad Air Base, where his right leg was amputated. Once stabilized, he was transported to Germany, and then back to the United States.

In addition to losing his right leg, Specialist Toppin suffered severe damage to his left leg and burns to his face and arms.

Specialist Toppin received the Purple Heart, Combat Action Badge, Iraq Campaign Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Achievement Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, and National Defense Service Medal.

Toppin, his wife Ashley and their daughter Addi would like to live in South Texas.



Andrew & Ashley Toppin with daughter Addi





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Specialist Toppin was severely wounded in Iraq in 2009.





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Specialist Toppin was on hand to mark the end of his unit's Iraq deployments.





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Specialist Toppin and daughter Addi





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The Toppin family would like to live in South Texas.

