



CAPTAIN TERRENCE HIGGINS (U.S. ARMY)  
CLASS OF 1998

Captain Terrence Higgins, born and raised in Point Pleasant, is a 1998 graduate of Point Pleasant Borough High School. As a Panther, CPT Higgins was a three year varsity letter winner in both Football and Wrestling. In football, he served as Captain and earned All-Conference honors as well as Co-MVP. In Wrestling, he was a district place winner and Ruddick Award recipient. Upon graduation, CPT Higgins attended Valley Forge Military College in Wayne, PA where he graduated Cum Laude with an Associate's Degree and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. At Valley Forge, he served as the Corps Fourth Captain, cadet leader of his ROTC battalion, and received the ROTC Superior Cadet Award and George C. Marshall leadership Award. In addition to his awards, he led a group of his peers in starting a volunteer organization that forged a partnership with his school and youth from an inner city community in Philadelphia, PA. CPT Higgins then graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Justice Studies from Montclair State University. While attending Montclair State University (MSU), he participated in Operation Noble Eagle as a member of the New Jersey National Guard, guarding the bridges

and tunnels of NYC following the attacks on September 11, 2001.

Upon graduation from MSU, CPT Higgins married the former Alisha Thorgesen, also of Point Pleasant, and then entered Active Duty service with the United States Army in August, 2002. After completing the Infantry Officer's Basic Course, he graduated from the rigorous U.S. Army Ranger School and the Mechanized Leaders Course, with follow on assignment to Fort Carson, Colorado. As part of 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment "Fighting Eagles", CPT Higgins deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as a Rifle Platoon Leader. CPT Higgins' next assignment was at Fort Benning, Georgia where he served as Commander of Delta Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 54<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, and attended the Infantry Maneuver Captain's Career Course. Upon graduation, CPT Higgins took command of Charlie Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 75<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment (RSTA) "Widowmakers", 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, KY where he deployed as Company Commander in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and was inducted as an "Honorary Member of the 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment". CPT Higgins' current assignment is at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California where he served as an Infantry Company Combat Trainer and is currently the Senior Training Analyst with the Light Infantry Task Force trainers (Airborne) "Tarantula Team".

CPT Higgins' awards and decorations include the Bronze Star for Valor, two Bronze Stars, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, two Army Achievement Medals, the coveted Ranger Tab, the Basic Parachutist Badge, the Air Assault Badge, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, and the Expert Infantryman's Badge; and he has received the Order of Saint Maurice for his contributions to the United States Infantry.

CPT Higgins and his wife Alisha have three sons, Terrence John (TJ), age 6; Nathaniel, age 4; and Benjamin, 9 months. In addition to his career, CPT Higgins volunteers as a Tiger Cub Den Leader and has volunteered as a wrestling coach and a soccer coach.