

Our Fallen Hero



CPL. Mark Goyet Westbrook

Mark Goyet never lived in Maine, but spent plenty of time here with grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. He talked about going to college and then becoming an officer like his father, Navy Cmdr. Raymond Goyet. But he soon changed his mind and convinced the Marine Corps to let him go to Afghanistan, said his grandfather, Philip Curran of Westbrook.

Cpl. Goyet, 22, died in battle, June 28th, 2011, in Helmand Province from gunshot wounds. Goyet felt strong loyalty to the men with whom he served.

When Mark Goyet's unit returned from Iraq last winter, two of his aunts went to the airport in Bangor to be with the greeters welcoming the unit home to the United States. Goyet was given an honorary "Maine Patriot" license plate. "He was very proud of that license plate," Curran said. After three years and three tours overseas, Goyet was scheduled to be discharged in February -- until he asked for the transfer to a unit bound for Afghanistan.

He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, (Regimental Combat Team-8, II Marine Expeditionary Force FWD), 1st Marine Division, based in Twentynine Palms, Calif. Several of the state's political leaders issued public statements about the latest death of a serviceman with Maine ties.