

Our Fallen Hero



1LT James R. Zimmerman Symrna Mills

Killed in action on November 2, 2010 while bravely leading his men through combat during Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, First Lieutenant James R. Zimmerman was a Maine native born in Presque Isle, enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps in March, 2003. He attended boot camp at Parris Island, SC, and served one year in the Marine Corps Reserve as a rifleman in Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment in Topsham, ME. In 2004, First Lieutenant Zimmerman was awarded a Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Marine Option scholarship. He attended the University of Maine, Orono, where he graduated in 2008 and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Upon completing The Basic School and the Infantry Officer Course, First Lieutenant Zimmerman was assigned as a platoon commander with Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, where he began fulfilling his lifelong dream of leading Marines.

While serving with Bravo Company of the MMA/UMaine NROTC, First Lieutenant Zimmerman established a legacy for his continuous display of extraordinary strength during military excellence competitions, and his selfless loyalty to his peers. He consistently epitomized the Marine Corps' core values of honor, courage, and commitment. First Lieutenant Zimmerman's outstanding dedication, intrepid actions, and ultimate sacrifice are a reflection of his unprecedented character.