

# UCF's Veterans Legacy Program



**VA**



**U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs**  
National Cemetery Administration



**UCF**

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

**Department  
of History**



Marc Anthony Anderson

1972 – 2002

Specialist: US Army

Afghanistan

\*Please note that news articles published online often exist behind paywalls and require a subscription to access digitally. We have provided links, but have not reproduced them here. Similarly, many families have created remembrance pages. Again, we have provided links, but have not reproduced any images without express written permission from the family.

“U.S., School Yearbooks, 1900-2016,” database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: accessed August 26, 2023), entry for Marc Anderson, Alliance, OH: 1988.

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/675086426:1265>

A yearbook photograph of Marc Anderson during his sophomore year at Alliance High School in 1988.

“U.S., School Yearbooks, 1900-2016,” database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: accessed August 26, 2023), entry for Marc Anderson, Alliance, OH: 1988.

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1357523687:1265>

A team photo of the 1988 Alliance High School football team, of which Marc Anderson was a part.

“U.S., School Yearbooks, 1900-2016,” database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: accessed August 26, 2023), entry for Marc Anderson, Alliance, OH: 1988.

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1357523979:1265>

Yearbook page for the 1988 Alliance High School Track and Field team. This page includes a photograph of Marc Anderson throwing a shot put during a Track and Field competition.

“U.S., School Yearbooks, 1900-2016,” database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: accessed August 26, 2023), entry for Marc Anderson, Alliance, OH: 1989.

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/197812590:1265>

A yearbook photograph of Marc Anderson during his junior year at Alliance High School in 1989.

“Hometown will Honor Soldier Killed in Afghanistan,” *Channel 19 News* (Cleveland), March 8, 2002 (accessed August 26, 2023).

<https://www.cleveland19.com/story/696040/hometown-will-honor-soldier-killed-in-afghanistan/>

This article, published online by a local news station serving the Cleveland, OH area, provides information about Marc Anderson just four days after he was killed during a fire in Afghanistan. The article mentions that a new sports complex behind Alliance High School, in Alliance, OH will be named after Marc A. Anderson, who graduated from Alliance High School in 1990.

“Citizens Honor War Dead,” *Florida Today* (Viera), May 26, 2002, 5 (accessed August 26, 2023).

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/178274481/?terms=Marc%20Anthony%20Anderson&match=1>

The above article, published for the Memorial Day Weekend, 2002, about two months after Anderson’s death, provides information about Anderson’s funeral and burial at Florida National Cemetery. The article includes quotations from Anderson’s family and friends, and provides details on his early life, military service, and mentions that he was posthumously awarded a Bronze Star, a Defense Meritorious Service Medal and a Purple Heart.

Helen O’Neill, “Afghan Dead Sad Memorial Day Memory,” *Florida Today* (Viera), May 26, 2002, 11 (accessed August 26, 2023).

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/178274487/?terms=Marc%20Anthony%20Anderson&match=1>

This article, published for the Memorial Day Weekend, 2002, commemorates several Veterans who lost their lives in Afghanistan in previous months, including Marc A. Anderson. The article includes quotations from family and friends speaking about these Veterans. It also mentions that Anderson’s parents named their son after the ancient Roman politician Mark Antony after the doctor who delivered him said he was a particularly strong child.

Helen O’Neill, “America Pauses to Honor its New Heroes,” *Pensacola News Journal*, May 26, 2002, 2 (accessed August 26, 2023).

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/269115264/?terms=Marc%20Anthony%20Anderson&match=1>

This article is the same one as above.

Helen O'Neill, "War's Toll Comes Home this Holiday," *Tallahassee Democrat*, May 26, 2002, 1 (accessed August 26, 2023).

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/249949241/?terms=Marc%20Anthony%20Anderson&match=1>

This article is the same one as published in Helen O'Neill, "Afghan Dead Sad Memorial Day Memory," *Florida Today* (Viera), May 26, 2002, 11 (accessed August 26, 2023).

---, "War's Toll Comes Home this Holiday," *Tallahassee Democrat*, May 26, 2002, 4 (accessed August 26, 2023).

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/249949257/?terms=Marc%20Anthony%20Anderson>

This article continues the above article's content from page one of the same edition.

Helen O'Neill, "U.S. Afghan War Dead Remembered," *Bradenton Herald*, May 26, 2002, 8 (accessed August 26, 2023).

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/720798403/?terms=Marc%20Anthony%20Anderson&match=1>

This article is the same one as published in Helen O'Neill, "Afghan Dead Sad Memorial Day Memory," *Florida Today* (Viera), May 26, 2002, 11 (accessed August 26, 2023).

Helen O'Neill, "Afghan War Dead Give Fresh Pause this Memorial Day," *Cincinnati Enquirer*, May 26, 2002, 14 (accessed August 26, 2023).

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/103737168/?terms=Marc%20Anthony%20Anderson&match=1>

This article is the same one as published in Helen O'Neill, "Afghan Dead Sad Memorial Day Memory," *Florida Today* (Viera), May 26, 2002, 11 (accessed August 26, 2023).

Helen O’Neill, “This Memorial Day, Afghan War Dead Stir Sad Memories,” *Press and Sun-Bulletin* (Binghamton), May 27, 2002, 2 (accessed August 26, 2023).

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/260196458/?terms=Marc%20Anthony%20Anderson&match=1>

This article is the same one as published in Helen O’Neill, “Afghan Dead Sad Memorial Day Memory,” *Florida Today* (Viera), May 26, 2002, 11 (accessed August 26, 2023).

“Remembrance in a New World,” *Herald-Sun* (Durham), May 27, 2002, 10 (accessed August 26, 2023).

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/795428176/?terms=Marc%20Anthony%20Anderson&match=1>

This editorial, published in the Durham, NC-area newspaper the *Herald-Sun*, commemorates and thanks those Veterans who lost their lives in Afghanistan. Published on Memorial Day, 2002, the article mentions Marc A. Anderson by name, and remembers his sacrifice on the battlefield.

Helen O’Neill, “Beautiful Souls,” *Buffalo News*, May 27, 2002, 1 (accessed August 26, 2023).

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/878554108/?article=599ae98a-33b1-42ad-830e-5a1cb86f153c&terms=Marc%20Anthony%20Anderson>

This article is the same one as published in Helen O’Neill, “Afghan Dead Sad Memorial Day Memory,” *Florida Today* (Viera), May 26, 2002, 11 (accessed August 26, 2023).

Dana Peck, “Marc Anderson, 30, was an Outstanding Student Athlete, a Teacher and a Brave Soldier,” *Florida State Times* (Tallahassee), August 2002, 2 (accessed August 26, 2023).

<https://news.fsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/fstimes-2002-08-01.pdf>

The August 2002 issue of the *Florida State Times*, the school newspaper for Florida State University, includes an article commemorating Marc Anderson. The article remembers Anderson, who was an alumnus of the University, as a gifted athlete, a teacher, and a brave soldier.

“Home of the Brave: A Tribute to Florida’s Fallen Service Members,” *Palm Beach Post*, July 4, 2005, 7 (accessed August 26, 2023).

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/227003432/?terms=Marc%20Anthony%20Anderson&match=1>

Published in the *Palm Beach Post* on Independence Day, 2005, the above article commemorates Veterans from FL who died while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. The article includes a photograph of Anderson, as well as information like his hometown and date of death.

“In Honor of our Fallen: Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom),” *Tampa Bay Times*, May 28, 2007, 6 (accessed August 26, 2023).

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/330936916/?terms=Marc%20Anthony%20Anderson&match=1>

This article, published in the *Tampa Bay Times* on Memorial Day, 2007, remembers Veterans from FL who died during Operation Enduring Freedom. The article includes a photograph of Anderson, as well as his death date, rank, and age when he died.

“SPC. Marc Anderson,” *Rangers Remembered*, accessed August 26, 2023.

<https://rangersremembered.com/portfolio/spc-marc-anderson/>

The Rangers Remembered organization commemorates fallen Army Ranger Veterans by creating online memorial pages for those who have died while serving. The above link navigates to a memorial for Marc Anderson, and includes several photographs and a few paragraphs detailing his service in the Army. The page also includes a comments section, where a number of people, including people who knew him, have left comments remembering Anderson.

“SPC Marc A. Anderson: 4 March 2002, Afghanistan Rangers,” *US Army Special Operations History*, accessed August 26, 2023.

[https://arsof-history.org/fallen/2002\\_anderson\\_marc.html](https://arsof-history.org/fallen/2002_anderson_marc.html)

The above link navigates to an online memorial page for Marc A. Anderson sponsored by the US Army Special Operations History. It includes a photograph of Anderson, and three brief paragraphs detailing his early life, death, and enlistment in the US Army.

“Honor the Fallen: Army SPC. Marc A. Anderson,” *Military Times*, 2018, accessed August 26, 2023.

<https://thefallen.militarytimes.com/army-spc-marc-a-anderson/262893>

The Honor the Fallen Memorial, published by the *Military Times*, commemorates US Military Veterans who have died in service. Anderson’s page, linked above, includes information about the date and location of his death, his age when he was killed, and a photograph depicting Anderson in his Army uniform.

“Marc Anderson,” *Phi Delta Theta: Washington DC Alumni Club*, accessed August 26, 2023.

<https://phideltdc.com/remembering-9-11/marc-anderson/>

While a student at both Case Western Reserve University and Florida State University, Marc Anderson had been a member of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. This page, published by the fraternal organization, memorializes Anderson and honors his military service. It includes a photograph of Anderson holding a Phi Delta Theta flag, taken just days before his death in Afghanistan.

“Marc Anderson,” *NoleFan*, accessed August 26, 2023.

<https://www.nolefan.org/ath/a07238.html>

This page, created by the public, collects Anderson’s school athletic records and accomplishments while he was a student at Florida State University. It includes a list of his Track and Field statistics while at the University, and also a brief obituary.

“SGT Marc A. Anderson,” *Army Ranger Lead the Way Fund*, accessed August 26, 2023.

<https://www.leadthewayfund.org/specialist-marc-a-anderson/>

An online memorial page created by the Army Ranger Lead the Way Fund, this page includes a few paragraphs detailing Anderson’s life and death, as well as a photograph of Anderson in his Army Ranger uniform.

“Army Spc. Marc A. Anderson,” *Fallen Heroes of Operation Enduring Freedom*, accessed August 26, 2023.

<https://www.fallenheroesmemorial.com/oef/profiles/andersonmarca.html>

*Fallen Heroes Memorial* honors Veterans who have died while serving as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. This online memorial page provides information about Anderson’s age when he died, military rank, and the circumstances of his death. It also includes a section for messages from the public, where numerous people have paid their respects to Anderson and have thanked him for his sacrifice.

“Remembering Rangers who Have Made the Ultimate Sacrifice: Marc Anderson,” *Sua Sponte Foundation*, August 26, 2023.

<https://suaspontefoundation.org/memoriam/anderson/>

The above link navigates to a memorial page published by the Sua Sponte Foundation, which aims to support the families of and memorialize fallen US Army Rangers. This page, dedicated to Marc Anderson, includes a collection of photographs which depict Anderson in his Army uniform.

“Obituary of Marc A. Anderson,” *Anderson-McQueen: Love, Life, Legacy*, accessed August 26, 2023.

<https://andersonmcqueen.com/tribute/details/82427/Marc-Anderson/obituary.html>

An online obituary for Marc A. Anderson published by Anderson-McQueen Funeral Homes and Cremation Tribute Center based in St. Petersburg, FL, this online source provides information on Anderson’s life and death, different places where he lived in the US, education history, and lists his surviving family members.

“SPC Marc A. Anderson,” *ARITS*, accessed August 26, 2023.

<https://arits.org/index.php/biographies/48-kia/enduring-freedom/enduring-freedom-afghanistan/723-spc-marc-a-anderson>

The above link navigates to an online memorial page for Marc A. Anderson, sponsored by an organization called ARITS (Airborne Ranger in the Sky). The page includes information like Anderson’s death date, military rank, and a note that he will never be forgotten.

“Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) Casualties,” database, *Fold3* (fold3.com: accessed August 26, 2023), entry for Marc Anthony Anderson.

<https://www.fold3.com/record/630020047/marc-anthony-anderson-operation-enduring-freedom-oef-casualties>

Housed at the military records database *Fold3*, this source collects data on Anderson’s military rank, unit, place of death, residence location in the US, and age at time of death.

“Social Security Death Index,” database, *Fold3* (fold3.com: accessed August 26, 2023), entry for Marc Anthony Anderson.

<https://www.fold3.com/record/34244071/marc-anthony-anderson-social-security-death-index>

Includes information about Marc Anthony Anderson’s birth and death, including dates.

“U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007,” database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: accessed August 26, 2023), entry for Marc Anthony Anderson.

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/18430805:60901>

A collection of information which includes Anderson’s birth and death dates, birth place, and other government administrative information.

“U.S., Veterans’ Gravesites, ca. 1775-2019,” database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: accessed August 26, 2023), entry for Marc A. Anderson.

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/119258:8750>

A collection of Veteran gravesite locations for members of the US military who died between ca. 1775 to 2019, this source includes information like Anderson’s birth and death dates, his enlistment date into the US Army, his military rank, and his gravesite location in Florida National Cemetery.

“U.S., Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, 1850-2010,” database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: accessed August 26, 2023), entry for Marc Anthony Anderson.

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/5627621:2441>

A source which indexes Anderson’s name, birth and death dates, and enlistment date into the US Army.

“U.S., Casualties from Iraq and Afghanistan Conflicts, 2001-2012,” database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: accessed August 26, 2023), entry for Marc Anthony Anderson.

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/95:1568>

This casualty listing, from a database indexed at Ancestry.com which collects information about Veterans killed or wounded during the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts between 2001 and 2012, includes information about Anderson’s military unit, occupation, rank, and cause of death.

“SPC Marc Anthony Anderson,” *FindAGrave*, February 27, 2005 (accessed August 26, 2023).

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/10534514/marc-anthony-anderson>

Marc Anthony Anderson’s page on findagrave.com includes information on his birth and death dates, military service, and burial location. It includes an extended description of his life, which details his early years, athletic accomplishments, why he chose to join the US military, and the circumstances of his death. Anderson died during the Battle of Takur Ghar, in Afghanistan, while attempting to recover the body of fallen Navy SEAL Neil Roberts. The page also includes a selection of photographs published by friends and loved ones, which depict Anderson with his friends, in his military uniform, and several images of his headstone at Florida National Cemetery. As of August 2023, over 2,000 people had left digital flowers on his page, which honor Anderson’s memory and service to his country.



**Marc Anderson's Headstone in Florida National Cemetery**

UCF Veterans Legacy Program, *Headstone for Marc Anderson*, photograph, 2023, Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, FL.