

# A Measure of Devotion

Alex Vaughn was a dedicated man. He was so dedicated he was staying up late to write a letter to his family even though he needed sleep for a tough day tomorrow. He wrote a little to everyone he could think of back home. How could he tell them how much he loved them. It just seemed impossible to put it all down in words.

He tried, but it was really time to put it away and hit the sack. "At 0900 hours we are going to roll out to Ramadi. The plan is to drive to every hotspot until we receive fire. Then we jump out of a perfectly good Bradley and run in shooting. I feel I have my work cut out for me." he wrote.

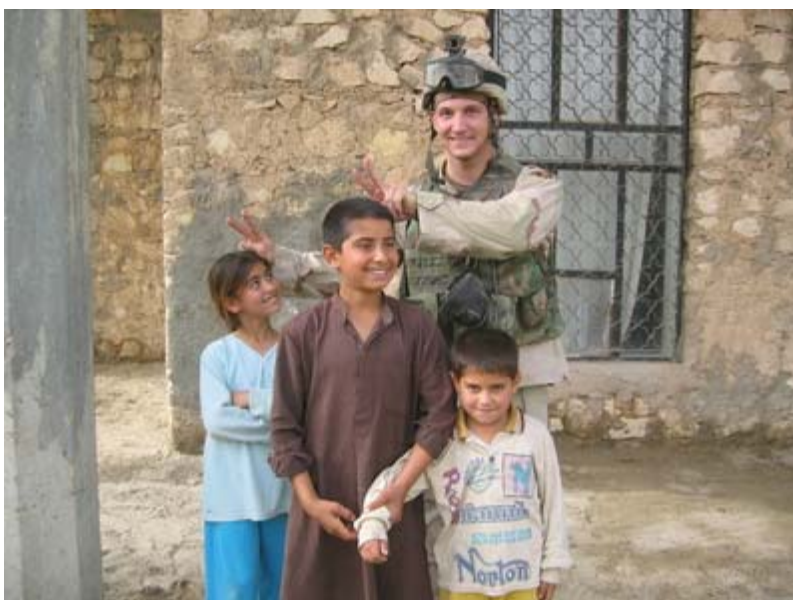
Alex Vaughn was a dedicated soldier. He was Spc Vaughn, HHC 1-9 IN BN 2BCT, a combat medic with a brigade combat team. He was fighting for his country and for his family. And even



**Spc Alex Vaughn, Combat Medic, on patrol in Iraq**

though he specialized in saving the wounded he knew he was in danger. "If you are reading this then things did not go well and you have to know that I am sorry. I could never express my love for all of you in a way that would give credit to my feelings." On June 21st, 2005, Alex bravely died in combat. He was 23 years old.

Alex Vaughn was a dedi-



cated son. "I would not be here or be the man I am without you Mom." he wrote to his mother, Terry. Terry Savage is a customer service representative at NECP Birmingham. We know she was proud of him. And we're proud of him too. "I love you all so much that it breaks my heart just to write this. If any of you liked who I was, just know that it was because of all of you that I lived this way."

*I have been your son, your brother, your cousin, your nephew, your grandson, your friend, your best friend, your comedian, your nuisance and lastly, your soldier. I do not regret anything I've done, even the mistakes make you who you are. Just know that if I die, that I did it trying to bring back as many people to their families as I could. I am sorry if I don't make it home to you. I love you ALL.*

Thank you Terry and family for your sacrifice. And thank you Alex for giving the last full measure of devotion to your family and your country.