



# PFC Andrew H. Nelson

**3/31/87 - 12/25/06**

**“Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends”**

**John 15:13**

**On Christmas Day 2006 St. Johns lost their own “Hometown Hero”. PFC Andrew H. Nelson stationed in Baghdad had volunteered to be the lead driver for a mission called “Dagger Iron Claw Clearance”, it was considered to be one of the most important jobs in this mission. At 3:45pm Michigan time, 11:45pm Baghdad time, an Improvised Explosive Device detonated near his vehicle, killing Andrew instantly, and also killing two of his fellow Soldiers, Sergeant John Bubeck and Specialist Aaron Preston, and wounding one other soldier.**

**Andrew left behind his wife, Kristi (Rewerts), his parents Alan and Tami Nelson, sisters Jessica and Stephanie.**

**The family wanted Andrew to be remembered in a special way so they started the Andrew H. Nelson Scholarship Fund to be given out to 2 local students on the swim team at St. Johns High School.**

**Andrew was a 2005 graduate of St. Johns High School and was a stand-out swimmer on the team. He started swimming for the St. Johns Sea Lions when was nine years old. By the time he was 14, he had earned many awards and medals during his time in the Sea Lions, including “Most Improved”, “101% Award”, and the 13-14 Year Old Boys “Swimmer of the Year” Award. Andrew also swam all four years in high school. He was a four year Varsity Letter Winner and was the Captain of the Swim Team his senior year. He earned numerous medals and awards in high school including 2002 MISCA Greater Lansing All Area Swimming and Diving Team “Honorable Mention”, 2004 MISCA Zone 7 All Zone Team “Honorable Mention”, and 2005 MISCA Zone 7 All Zone Team “2nd Team”. Andrew qualified for the State Championship as an alternate his freshman year, and qualified for the State Championship in his individual events in his sophomore, junior and senior years.**

**The Andrew H. Nelson Scholarship Fund winners last year were Casey Sample and Zach Kay.**

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