

Marine Cpl. Chad Watson's Bio

Chad joined the Marine Corps Reserve in 2004 while attending Indiana University on a Wrestling Scholarship. He was a part of the 3/24 Infantry Unit out of Terre Haute, IN. He drilled there while in college with aspirations of becoming a Marine Corps Officer. In 2006 Chad put his aspirations on hold and volunteered to deploy with RCT 5 to go to Fallujah, Iraq with only one year left of college. Chad was assigned a Team Leader position and led his team on over 60 combat patrols and 5 ambushes. A little over three months in Fallujah, Iraq Chad was hit by an IED after conducting a raid on a suspected insurgent house. During this blast Chad traumatically lost his right leg above the knee, shattered his left ankle and foot, and took shrapnel to his right eye and face. Chad spent the next 17 months recovering and going through rehabilitation and multiple surgeries at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Chad was recognized by his Battalion as Marine of the Quarter for his actions in combat while in Fallujah, Iraq and was meritoriously promoted for these same actions. Chad now works for the Wounded Warrior Project, whose mission is to honor and empower Wounded Warriors by raising awareness and enlisting the public's aid for the needs of our severely injured service men and women.

Some of Chad's awards and recognitions include:

Boot Camp Honor Graduate
School of Infantry Honor Graduate
Purple Heart
Combat Action Ribbon

Marine of the Battalion while serving in a combat zone in Fallujah, Iraq.

Chad was also voted by his fellow Marines as the one Marine they would most like to serve in combat with. (SOI Bravo Company 13-05)