



1LT M. Hidalgo

1LT Daren M Hidalgo, 24, was Killed in Action February 20, 2011 while serving his country in Afghanistan. Daren attended Kettle Moraine Middle School and High School and was a member of the school band and wrestled there. He graduated from Pennsylvania's Dallastown Area High School in 2005 where he was a championship wrestler, National Honor Society member, and a trumpeter in the school marching band. Daren was accepted to the prestigious United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point, NY. He excelled at the Academy, serving as G-4 Company Commander during his senior year. Daren graduated near the top of the Class of 2009 with a Bachelor of Science degree. In the Army he completed numerous courses to include the extremely challenging Ranger School. Earning the coveted Ranger Tab was one of the many proud moments of his short career. Daren was assigned to 3rd Platoon, Ghost Rider Company, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, Vilseck, Germany. Deployed to the Maiwand District of Afghanistan in October 2010, Daren executed his duties and responsibilities to perfection. Throughout numerous combat engagements he gained a reputation in the Squadron that was second to none. His ability to assess any situation and fix any problem was awe-inspiring to those who knew him. Daren's greatest talent was his ability to maintain a positive attitude and inspire each of his Soldiers to be great. As a man who stood up when others would not and as a man who said "Send Me" when others wouldn't go. He has earned posthumously the award of a Bronze Star and the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster. Daren was known for his winning smile and engaging personality. A jokester and prankster always looking to cheer up people around him. His strength of character and empathy endeared him to all who met him. Daren will be sadly missed by his parents: Jorge & Andrea, Siblings: Jared (Jenny) Hidalgo, Miles (Caroline) Hidalgo, Carmen (Mike) Spellman, nephews: Wade, and Carson and his niece: Lexie. His extended family and many friends will miss him also. Daren's life and legacy will never be forgotten. All of us fortunate enough to have known him will cherish his memory, love and friendship. Visitation Wednesday March 2, 2011 from 11AM to 3:15 PM at St. Anthony on the Lake Catholic Church W280 N2101 Hwy SS Pewaukee, WI 53072. A remembrance presentation will begin at 3:45 PM. The Funeral Mass will be at 4:00 PM. Burial will be in West Point Cemetery in NY later this week. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed

to the Daren M. Hidalgo Memorial Fund. It will be used for future scholarships and support of wounded soldiers. Donations can be made at any US Bank in the country. Mailing address is: US Bank 2040 W. Silvernail Road Pewaukee, Wisconsin 53072. For further information please call Randle-Dable Funeral, Cremation, & Preplanning Services at 262-547-4035. To leave the family an online tribute message visit www.waukeshafunerals.com

Tribute Wall

DY

“ Daren,
Thank you for your service to our nation. God's Word says, "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." John 15:13. You not only laid down your life for your friends, you have inspired them and us by your noble heart. I pray that God welcomes you into His arms and gives your family deep grace during this difficult time.

Dan York - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

PP

“ *Jorge & Family: My sincere condolences in the loss of your son. When I heard the last name of the fallen soldier I said a small prayer in hopes that this would not be your son.
It breaks my heart to see you have lost a loved one in such a way.
My prayers are with you all
Peggy L Pattee*

Peggy L Pattee - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

WS

“ *My heart was touched when I read about the death of your son in service to our country. I served 4 years in the Navy some 51 years ago and in recent years I have grown concerned about the lack of patriotism in our country. Then, I read of your son, all he had accomplished in a life that ended all too soon, and I realized our country is still in good hands because we still produce outstanding young men like your son who proudly serves our country.*

May our God bless you with his comfort today, and each day, as you remember with pride he accomplished so much and left a lasting memory for others to follow.

Wayne

Wayne Sanders - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

AP

“ *My prayers have been with Daren and his survivors. He is now with God and is smiling down on each of you. He does not want you to be sad, but rather he wants you to remember all the great times he spent with you. May God bring you all the strength you need to grant him his wishes.*

Al Piraino

Albert Piraino - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

VB

“ *I did not know your Daren personally, but, after reading a tribute to him, I am extremely touched by your loss of someone so dear, who gave his best to Life and the country he served. My deepest condolences.*

Vicki Brostrom - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

RG

“ *This is very sad and very tragic. My heartfelt condolences go out to Daren's family, during this time, and always. It makes us all sad to lose such a fine young man. May God Bless him.*

Raymond Gallenberg - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

CT

“ *Jorge & Family,*
Our deepest sympathy and condolences to you on the loss of your son. Jorge, I worked for you for several years and heard so many stories of your children as they were growing up. We can't be there for the service but are thinking of your family. Your positive influence on me while I worked for you will never be forgotten and I am truly sorry for your loss.

Cari & Jay Trayner (& our daughters)

Cari & Jay Trayner - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

GR

“ *To Jorge, my friend from long ago, I never met your son but from what I read he was a man of great character, strength and commitment. Don't let this tragedy darken your life but strengthen it with resolve to live with the same bright optimism your son faced life with. I'm sorry for the loss of this very good young man and hope your family and community will remember, keep and cherish all the goodness and smiles Daren has brought you.*

George L. Rodriguez - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

MW

“ To the family of Lt. Daren Hidalgo ~ You have my deepest sympathy & condolences in the loss of your loved one. Know that the Patriot Guard will come with the utmost RESPECT & COMPASSION to honor Daren. We come because we feel it is our DUTY. Our OBLIGATION to him and all of you. We deeply appreciate his Military service to our Country. May he rest in peace...
Michael Weaver, Vietnam Vet ~

Michael Weaver - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

R'

“ Jorge and Andrea - Thank you for writing about your son. What a handsome, accomplished, and courageous young man. Your pride comes through in every word. Daren must also have been proud of you to have followed in his father's footsteps. As hard as it is to be a soldier, I think being a soldier's parent is even harder. God Bless you both, your son Daren, and your whole family.

Rob and Meg Rockwood

Robert Rockwood USMA '82 - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

BB

“ Jorge, You and your Family have been on my mind all week. I'm so sorry for the loss of your fine son. He was a great young American who left a legacy even though his years were cut short.
We cannot ever forget the sacrifice that many individuals and families have made for our country.

Bob

Bob Berdahl - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

CM

“ Our family grieves with yours. We are so proud of Darren.

Carol Smith Rich Moore - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

AJ

“ Dear Mr. and Mrs Hildago & family,
Our deepest condolence for the loss of your son and brother. Daren is a son to all of us and our nation. We thank him and you for this gift. We wish you peace.
Sincerely,
Ted & Alba Jensen & family
(Matt Romanowski's aunt & uncle)

Alba & Ted Jensen - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

RS

“ Daren, may you ride your steed into Fiddler's Green and sing a toast with the other members of the Long Gray Line awaiting you. We will all link hands soon. May God give you a place only saved for the protectors.

Ralph S. Siegrist - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

BS

“ Your Son has payed the ultimate sacrifice so that all can live free,he is a true hero.He now rides with the Lord on his final mission,may he always watch over you.Rest in peace my Cav Brother.Toujours Pret

Bret Shoemaker - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

HP

“ I was lucky enough to meet Daren one time over at his brothers house!! He was such a nice, sweet guy! He and Miles look so much a like!Daren I am so proud and blessed to have met you! You are a True Hero! You will never be forgotten and I am sorry you had to pay the ultimate sacrifice! I promise that I do not take my freedom for granted! I just want the Hidalgo family to know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I cannot even begin to tell you how sorry I am for your loss! Please let me know if there is anything I can do for you all!! I love you and God Bless!

The Paquette's
GA

Heidi Paquette - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

BD

“ Our prayers and deepest condolences on your loss. May God give you strength and guidance. Daren gave the ultimate sacrifice. God bless you and your family. You are all in our prayers.

Betty and Ray Dull - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

DR

“ May God grant you His peace and comfort over the loss of your son Daren. Please know that there are many of us like my family and associates who are eternally grateful for the service and sacrifice made by outstanding young men like Daren, in defense of our freedom. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the men and women of our Armed Forces. God Bless,
Dennis, Sue, Mike, Matt Rote
and the York Chapter of the Christian Motorcyclists Association

Dennis Rote - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

JR

“ We were deeply saddened to hear of your loss. You must be proud of Daren's service and sacrifice for his country but the grief for a life so full of promise cut so terribly short must be almost too hard to bear. Our thoughts are with you.

John and Norma Russell - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

CF

“ When we think of Daren, all we see is a huge smile. An incredibly fun and joyful person, we are proud of all he accomplished and our hearts are with you as you mourn the loss of such a great man.

Crandall Family - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

LL

“ I was so saddened to learn about Daren's death. I recall meeting him at Caroline's graduation from West Point. What a fun-loving and joyful spirit he had!

You are all in my thoughts and prayers as you grieve this fine young man and miss him at every family event from now on.

Linda Leighton - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

KC

“ Daren is the kind of man and Soldier that every person should aspire to be like. I extend my most heartfelt condolences to Daren's family. His smile will be sorely missed by all.

Krisi Coggiano - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

TK

“ Most sincere condolences, your family is in our thoughts and prayers. Tom and Kay Kolditz

Tom Kolditz - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

KN

“ My Daughter Camilla graduated with you from USMA in May of 2009. She liked you and thought you had the "right stuff." All of America thanks you for putting yourself out there and paying the ultimate cost.

"For your Freedom and Mine."

Keith L. Nusbaum - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

MA

“ I was so sincerely sorry to hear of your son's death. I thank him and I thank you for his military service and pray for Daren, his buddies in the Stryker Cav and his family.

Sincerely,
A Military Mom

Mrs. Sue Alderman - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

JW

“ Our thoughts & prayers are with you. Our son is also serving with the 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment - 2SQDN.

God bless you & your family.

Al & Julie

Julie & Al Wright - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

JS

“ Please know we are thinking of you and sending our deepest sympathies.

Jan and Warren Swoope Sr. - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

RC

“ Daren was a ray of sunshine and a credit to his parents who he LOVED so dearly. He wanted to do them proud and he wanted to do well.....but he wanted to do good too. He wanted to set a good example. We had a few great chats. And.... he was "cool". We used to give him Harley gear to add to his "coolness" ~ he really didn't need that 'cos he oooooozed cool.

I am really devastated but know without a doubt that he is now serving in Heaven. I hope it is of some comfort to Jorge, Andrea and the family to know that many of us are thinking of you and wishing you strength. We are having masses said and sending you our best thoughts. With loveand sadness. Ruth C

Ruth Crowley - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

JF

“ So sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with you and your family. Thanks to Darren for his sacrifice for our country. Thinking of you during this time.

Jon and Brenda Flickinger - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

CJ

“ Dear Jorge and Andrea,

I saw the report on the news this morning about your son, Daren, and want to let you know how sorry I am. I worked with Jorge at Harley-Davidson and he was very proud of his entire family. Daren is a few years younger than my son, also in the service, and I can't imagine how you must feel.

From the news articles I have read about Daren he appeared to have so much promise and was very well liked that it seems hard to believe he is no longer with us. I know that your faith, family and friends will help you through this challenging time.

Please accept our deepest sympathy.

*Bless you,
Cheri & Steve Judkins*

Cheri Judkins - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM



“ God Bless your Soul! You are a True American Hero! May God watch over your family and keep them strong!

September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM

PZ

“ To the family of 1st Lt. Daren M. Hidalgo - My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Your son is a brave young hero. My hope is that happy memories and time will help ease the sorrow of your recent loss. It is so hard to lose a loved one. Thank you and God's peace be on you. Patty, a gratefull United States citizen.

Patty Zganjar - September 20, 2012 at 01:42 PM