

Outstanding Young Alumnus Award

February 12, 2015 Georgia Tech Alumni Association

Tyler Brown

MANAGEMENT 2001, HISTORY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 2001



Tyler Brown was an exceptional leader who served others before himself. He was the kind of young man that never met a stranger. His approach was open and friendly with a welcoming smile. If you spent 15 minutes with him, you felt his great compassion and love for other people.

Following in the footsteps of his father Carey Brown, IE 69, and brother Brent Brown, Mgt. 96, Tyler came to Georgia Tech where he excelled both academically and socially. In his senior year, he was elected president of the Student Government Association. Carey and Tyler Brown are the only father-son combination of SGA presidents in Tech history—truly marking a family legacy of service to the Institute. Tyler also was a proud member of the Kappa Alpha fraternity.

After graduating from Tech with dual bachelor's degrees in business management and history, technology and society, Tyler transitioned from the ROTC program at Tech to the U.S. Army. He quickly earned his paratrooper's wings and completed the rigorous Army Ranger training course before joining the Army's 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry.

Brown was stationed in Korea where he rose in command and became a widely-respected leader among his men. After his deployment in Korea, Tyler was selected for service in the Army's famous 3rd Infantry Regiment, known as the Old Guard. The Old Guard has many responsibilities, including guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. But instead of accepting this prestigious assignment, he chose to go to Iraq where his former platoon was being re-deployed. That decision exemplified his life, putting the good of others in front of his own interests.

1st Lt. Brown was killed by sniper fire on Sept. 14, 2004 in Ar Ramadi, Iraq. He was buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery. And he was posthumously awarded a Purple Heart, a Bronze Star and the Combat Infantryman Badge for his heroic service.

Today, the GT Military Affinity Group and the Kappa Alpha fraternity offer scholarships named in Tyler's honor, and the Tyler Brown Pi Mile Running Trail is a permanent part of Tech campus. Providing students and faculty with a well-lit running trail on campus was a long-time goal of Tyler's during his time at Tech. For 11 years now, the Tyler H. Brown Scholarship Endowment at the Georgia Tech Foundation has provided scholarships to the outstanding Woodward Academy seniors who matriculate to Tech. Many of you with us tonight have supported this scholarship for many years, for which we're most grateful.

"Tyler died for the country he loved, doing what he wanted to do. He lived well and died a hero.

He lived life to the fullest, he truly did. He became a role model to me."

– Brent Brown, speaking about his brother Tyler