

Kareem Rashad Sultan Khan (b. 12 February 1987 in Neptune, New Jersey, d. 6 August 2007 in Baqouba, Iraq) was a Muslim-American U.S. Army Specialist who died in Operation Iraqi Freedom.^[1] He received a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart for his service.^[1] He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.^{[1][2]}

The son of Feroze Khan of New Jersey and Elsheba Khan of Maryland, Khan was a 2005 graduate from Southern Regional High School. Khan was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team), based in Fort Lewis, Washington. According to the *Gannett News Service*, he was "spurred by the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center [and] wanted to show that not all Muslims were fanatics and that many, like him, were willing to lay their lives down for their country, America. He enlisted immediately after graduation and was sent to Iraq in July 2006."^[2] He was promoted posthumously to the rank of Corporal.

His service was cited during a 19 October 2008 interview on *Meet the Press* with general Colin Powell.^{[3][4]} In particular, Powell referred to a photograph in *The New Yorker* which showed Khan's mother by his gravestone in Arlington National Cemetery.^[1] Powell said Khan's example refutes the notion spread during the 2008 U.S. Presidential election that being Muslim disqualifies a person from being a genuine, patriotic American.^{[5][6]}

Obituary

- New Jersey War Dead: Army Spc. Kareem R. Khan, August 6, 2007

References

- [^] ^a ^b ^c ^d Platon (2008-09-29). "Service". *The New Yorker*.
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- [^] ^a ^b Mathur, Shruti L. (2007-08-20). "Blast kills Jersey Shore GI". *Gannett News Service*.
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- [^] "Meet the Press' transcript for October 19, 2008". *MSNBC*. 2008-10-19.
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- [^] Tumulty, Karen (2008-10-19). "Kareem Rashad Sultan Khan". *Time Magazine (Swampland blog)*. http://www.time-blog.com/swampland/2008/10/kareem_rashad_sultan_khan.html.

External links

- "Service". *The New Yorker*. 2008-09-29.
http://www.newyorker.com/online/2008/09/29/slideshow_080929_platon?slide=16.
- "More on the Soldier Kareem R. Khan." *New York Times* (19 October 2008)

- *"Death of Fort Lewis soldier resonates with Powell." The News Tribune (20 October 2008)*
- Guest Book for Kareem Rashad Sultan Khan - *Washington Post*