



Staff Sergeant Ryan M. Pitts  
**MEDAL OF HONOR**  
OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM



**Hometown:** Nashua, New Hampshire

**Born:** 1985

**Enlistment date:** January, 2003

**Unit:** Chosen Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (Airborne),  
503<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade

**Military Occupational Specialty:** 13 F - Forward Observer

**Deployments:** Operation Enduring Freedom VI & VIII,  
Afghanistan

Staff Sgt. Ryan Pitts joined the Army in 2003, at the age of 17 under the delayed entry program. He attended basic training and advanced individual training at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma.

Pitts then went to the U.S. Army Airborne School at Fort Benning, Ga., before being assigned as a radio telephone operator for the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 319<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment and 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade at Camp Ederle, Italy from 2004-2005. He remained headquartered at Camp Ederle as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 503<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 173<sup>rd</sup> Abn. Bde. from 2006 to 2009.

While assigned to the 173<sup>rd</sup>, Pitts deployed twice to Afghanistan. His first deployment in 2005 lasted 12 months. His final deployment spanned 15 months beginning in 2007. Pitts departed the active-duty Army in 2009.

His civilian education includes a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business from the University of New Hampshire at Manchester. He currently resides in Nashua, New Hampshire where he is in business development for the computer software industry.

His military education includes the U.S. Army Airborne School, U.S. Army Pathfinder Course, and the Warrior Leader Course.

Pitts' other awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with Valor, the Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with three bronze oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal with bronze clasp and two loops, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with two campaign stars, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon with numeral 4 device, the NATO Medal, the Combat Action Badge, the Parachutists Badge, the Pathfinder Badge, the Presidential Unit Citation, and the Valorous Unit Award.



I WILL ALWAYS PLACE THE MISSION FIRST • I WILL NEVER ACCEPT DEFEAT

[WWW.ARMY.MIL/MEDALOFHONOR/PITTS](http://WWW.ARMY.MIL/MEDALOFHONOR/PITTS)

I WILL NEVER QUIT • I WILL NEVER LEAVE A FALLEN COMRADE