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USS MICHAEL MONSOOR (DDG 1001)

Honoring a U.S. Navy Hero



Michael Monsoor's Service

- Michael Monsoor was born April 5, 1981, in Long Beach, CA. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy March 21, 2001, as a quartermaster, but changed his rating to master-at-arms April 2005.

- He received the Silver Star for risking exposure to heavy enemy fire to drag a wounded SEAL to safety on May 9, 2006, and was awarded the Bronze Star as the Task Unit Ramadi, Iraq Combat Advisor from April to September 2006.

- On Sept. 29, 2006, Monsoor's element was attacked by insurgents with a rocket-propelled grenade and small-arms fire. Monsoor took position with his machine gun when an insurgent threw a hand grenade. The grenade bounced off his chest and landed in front of him. Instead of trying to escape, he yelled "grenade" to alert his team of the danger and threw himself on it to absorb the force of the explosion. His actions saved the lives of his SEAL comrades on the rooftop that fateful day.

- He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life for Naval Special Warfare Task Group Arabian Peninsula, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

- He was posthumously made an Honorary Chief Petty Officer and welcomed into the Chief's Mess aboard USS Michael Monsoor (DDG 1001) on Sept. 15, 2017.

- Monsoor's Delta Platoon of SEAL Team 3 supported 1st Battalion, 506 Infantry Regiment (1-506), the Red Currahees, in Ramadi, Iraq. As a testament to the teamwork between the Army and Navy forces, Michael Monsoor was inducted as an Honorary Member of the 506th Regiment—the only Sailor to be so honored—in May 2018.

DDG 1001 Quick Facts:

Name: USS Michael Monsoor (DDG 1001)

Class: Zumwalt

Length: 600 feet

Speed: 30+ knots

Crew: 175 total

Mission: A multi-mission surface combatant capable of performing a range of deterrence, power projection, sea control, and command and control. The ship's mission is to provide credible, independent forward presence and deterrence, and to operate as an integral part of naval, joint or combined maritime forces.



The Ship's Crest

A crest is used to identify a ship or command and its elements usually symbolize the ship's namesake. For USS Michael Monsoor (DDG 1001), the elements represent the heroic service of Petty Officer 1st Class Michael Monsoor and the features of the Zumwalt class.

- The three mullets (stars) on the shield, represent the Navy SEALs saved by his actions on Sept. 29, 2006.
- The winged arm is a heraldic representation of St. Michael the Archangel, after whom Michael Monsoor was named.
- The lightning flashes represent a boldness in leadership and the ship's unique propulsion. They form a chevron to symbolize a wave piercing the bow.
- The large, inverted star is in the shape of the Navy Medal of Honor, and the purple coloring, the traditional color of valor and sacrifice, is inspired by the Purple Heart.
- The flintlock pistol from the Naval Special Warfare insignia represents the ship's Advanced Gun System, while the Roman numeral "III" alludes to Monsoor's assignment to SEAL Team Three.



"I Will Defend"