

## ANTHONY T. STAFFORD MILITARY LODGE № 16 COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND VETERAN RELATIONS

## HONOR TO A COMRADE and BROTHER

Sergeant 1st Class (SFC) Alwyn C. "Al" Cashe



U.S. ARMY SILVER STAR RECIPIENT

**Military Prince Hall Freemason** 



THIS IS WHY VETERANS DO WHAT THEY DO!

Just in case anyone would like to know what veteran military Prince Hall freemasons do in their spare time.



On the forenoon of October 9, 2016, the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Army Ten Miler at the Pentagon in Washington DC. Prince Hall Freemasons, Brother Marcellus Pierre and Worshipful James R Hunter both US Army Combat veterans ran the Army 10-Miler. They were close friends and comrades with SFC Cashe and knew him personally.

There were 35,000 runners that participated. in Honor of their fallen Brother, and Soldier SFC Alwyn Cashe. whom was assigned to Company A, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3d Infantry Division, during combat operations in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.

SFC Cashe was killed in action. October 17, 2005, Samarra, Iraq while serving in the US Army and deployed to Iraqi Freedom. He was on patrol and an improvised explosive device (IED) detonated and exploded under the M2 Bradley Fighting Vehicle (BFV) designated Alpha 13, igniting its fuel cell, throwing fuel onto the uniforms and physical bodies of the soldiers inside.

SFC Alwyn "Al" Cashe from Oviedo, Sanford, Florida, was in the gunner's hatch.

As Platoon Leader of the men in the Bradley, he managed to escape, then while under enemy fire.

He made three trips back into the burning BFV to pull six soldiers and an interpreter out.

His own fuel-soaked uniform burned away, leaving only his helmet, body armor and boots.

Covered with severe burns over as much as 70% of his body, he refused to be evacuated until all of his men had been medevac.



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Brother Marcellus Pierre and Worshipful James R Hunter

He died November 8, 2005, at San Antonio Military Hospital in Texas.

For his actions that day, Sergeant Cashe was awarded the Silver Star, the Army's third-most prestigious medal. But Brigadier General Gary Brito, the commander who recommended him for the Silver Star, determined after further review that the sergeant should have been recommended for a Medal of Honor, America's highest military award. Recipients of the Medal of Honor, always few and far between, have been almost non-existent in the War on Terror; critics say the criteria for awarding the medal reflect a World War II–mentality that needs to be adjusted to the realities of 21st-century symmetrical warfare.

> An extensive review by Military Times found 10 veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan who received lesser awards, but when records of their deeds are compared with those of earlier Medal of Honor recipients, it would appear they should have been honored with the highest award; SFC Alwyn Cashe is one of the ten.

So in Honor of SFC Cashe, Prince Hall Freemasons, Brother Marcellus Pierre and Worshipful James R Hunter, participated and ran the Ten Miler with distinct pride and honor as fellow comrades and masonic brethren. May he Rest in Peace and for his act of Valor Posthumously awarded **The Congressional Medal** of Honor.

## "THIS IS WHY VETERANS DO WHAT THEY DO"

Ref: Military Times, (SFC Cashe Photo Credit: U.S. Army)