



# Lakewood invites you to be part of the Veterans History Project

When Lakewood was founded as a city in 1954, many of its original residents were veterans and their families. The city's appreciation for military duty in service to our country was strong then, and has continued to be strong in every generation since. When the city renovated and expanded its Veterans Memorial Plaza in 2015, commemorative bricks were laid around the memorial so that veterans with a connection to Lakewood could be remembered and honored.

Now, to accompany the bricks and the memorial, the city is initiating an online Veterans History Project where the stories can be told of those veterans and active-duty military service members whose names appear on the commemorative bricks, or who otherwise have a Lakewood connection.

**If you would like to tell the story of a Lakewood-connected veteran or active-duty service member close to you, here's how:**

- Review the questions on the back of this flyer, gather the information and select and scan a photo.
- Visit our information page at [www.lakewoodcity.org/lakewoodveterans](http://www.lakewoodcity.org/lakewoodveterans)
- At the bottom of the information page, click on the link to the online submission form. Complete the form and upload the photo.

## Sergeant First Class Jeff W. Frasher



### Branch of service

Army

### Dates of service

March 1997 - still serving Active Duty

### Location(s) of service and/or conflicts

Locations: Fort Drum New York, Schofield Barracks Hawaii, Fort Hood Texas, Camp Humphreys South Korea, and Fort Rucker Alabama. Conflicts: Bosnia 9/99 - 4/00; Iraq 7/06 - 10/07; Iraq 5/09 - 10/09; Afghanistan 9/10 - 10/11; Afghanistan 5/12 - 1/13

### Medals earned

Army Commendation Medal (5); Army Achievement Medal (3); Army Good Conduct Medal (5); Iraq Campaign Medal - 3 Stars; Afghanistan Campaign Medal - 1 Star; National Defense Service Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; NATO Medal; Humanitarian Service Medal

### Brick location number

A-18-4

## Reflections on this veteran's military service

*Submitted by Sherri Harris*

After basic and AIT, Jeff's assignment was Aircraft Pnedraulics Repairer Fort Drum, New York. Jeff went from surfing in California to shoveling snow in upstate New York, spent the Millennium on guard duty in war-torn Bosnia, witnessed the famous sandstorms of Iraq, and the bitter cold of Afghanistan. Jeff has sat on the steps of Saddam Hussein's Presidential Palace in Tikrit, and felt the warm breezes of Hawaii while playing golf, had his own stool at the local pub in Korea, while being responsible for the repair and maintenance of the Army's helicopters. Jeff's favorite is the Chinook - in his words - it's a work horse!

Jeff is currently a Helicopter Maintenance Instructor at the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Fort Rucker, Alabama where he lives with his wife and three children of which two were born while he was serving in combat zones. Being the family member of an American soldier can be difficult but is rewarding.

Jeff loves southern Alabama - it's almost California!

Jeff's grandparents were original Lakewood homeowners, buying one of the "new" homes on Edgefield Street in 1954. Jeff's parents bought and moved into the Edgefield house when Jeff was 18 months old. Jeff grew up in Lakewood, attending Woodruff Christian Elementary and graduated from Mayfair High School in 1988.

If you don't have Internet access, or need assistance, help is available. You can schedule an appointment to bring your information and photo to the Weingart Senior Center, and a volunteer will complete the online form for you and scan and upload the photo.

Where: Weingart Senior Center  
Card Room/Library  
5220 Oliva Ave., Lakewood

Call: Joanne Teran at city hall to  
schedule your appointment  
562-866-9771, extension 2123

When: Thursday, June 9  
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Saturday, June 11  
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Bring: Information on your veteran  
(see worksheet on other side)  
and one photo of the veteran (will  
be scanned and returned to you)

