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Mark Quinsey : A charismatic young soldier in prime of life

Tuesday, 10 March 2009

Sapper Mark Quinsey (23) with his mother Pamela and sister Jaime MILITARY peers have described Sapper Mark Quinsey as a "charismatic and affable" young soldier.

The 23-year-old Birmingham man had been in the Army for four years and had qualified as an electrician from the Royal School of Military Engineering in Chatham.

He had served with 38 Engineer Regiment in both Ripon, Yorkshire, and Northern Ireland and had been deployed on a number of training exercises across the UK.

Most recently, in 2008, he attended the intensive class one electricians' course, which he completed with flying colours.

He was eager to put his recently gained trade knowledge to use and he was looking forward to the operational challenges that Afghanistan would offer.

Lieutenant Colonel Roger Lewis, Commanding Officer 38 Engineer Regiment, described his the death as "devastating".

He said: "Sapper Quinsey was an outwardly calm, resolute and motivated young soldier.

"A social live wire and hugely popular across the regiment, he was rarely away from the centre of the action.

"We were expecting him to play a vital role maintaining the living and working conditions of British soldiers serving in southern Afghanistan.

"Tragically, he has been denied this opportunity."

Major Darren Woods, Officer Commanding 25 Field Squadron, said: "The death of Sapper Quinsey has dealt a heavy blow to the squadron, many of whom have already deployed to Afghanistan.

"To lose such a charismatic young soldier in the prime of his life has been a tragedy of immeasurable magnitude."



Mark Quinsey, one of the two soldiers killed in the attack at Massareene Barracks

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