



**SSG JEREMY VROOMAN**

**JULY 17, 2021**

SIoux FALLS, SD



On November 26, 2019, South Dakota launched the Fallen Heroes Bridge Dedication Program. The program dedicates state bridges to South Dakota heroes who died while in active service, were a prisoner of war or were missing in action.

The South Dakota HWY 42 Bridge east of Sioux Falls and west of Rowena is dedicated to SSG Vrooman, of Mitchell and Sioux Falls. Vrooman deployed March 2003 to March 2004, and June 2008 to July 2008 in Support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. While serving in Iraq July 15, 2008, Vrooman's quick thinking and tactical abilities helped members of Palehorse Troop to survive a lethal explosion. Vrooman entered an abandoned building first to secure the area before the rest of the team. Without hesitation he signaled his team to exit the area and the building exploded. His sacrifice saved the lives of his troops from the blast, but not his own.

**Awards/Ribbons Vrooman Received:**

Bronze Star for Valor  
Purple Heart  
Combat Action Badge  
Good Conduct Medal  
Army Commendation Medal  
Army Achievement Medal  
Iraq Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star  
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medal  
And numerous other awards and decorations