

The Ministry of Defence has today confirmed the name of Corporal Seth Stephens of the Royal Marines who was killed in southern Afghanistan on Thursday 1 July 2010. At the request of Corporal Stephens' family, no further information was released regarding his death in July. At their request, the Ministry of Defence have now issued the following tribute.

A spokesperson for the Royal Marines said:

"Cpl Seth Stephens was a truly popular man. He was blessed with the innate ability to brighten the darkest room; he also possessed a disarming sense of humour. Measured and thoughtful, his strength came from a depth of experience and knowledge that he was keen to share with others. Armed with a positive 'can do' approach to every task, he was a trusted friend and colleague. A team member he most certainly was, but it was as an individual that his true colours were best displayed. Never one to follow the well trodden path, he was confident in his own abilities and was always looking for new challenges."

"Above all else Seth was a doting husband and father. His absolute dedication and unfailing love for his family, was abundantly clear for everybody to see. He could always be relied upon to be there for his family and friends, whose needs he always placed before his own. Their loss is immeasurable and our condolences go to them. If there is some solace to be gained, it lies in knowing that Seth died doing the job he genuinely loved, alongside comrades that had the utmost admiration for him. At this tragic time our thoughts are with his family. We all hope that his family can draw strength, as we do, from the fond and lasting memories we all have of Seth; a father, husband, soldier and friend."