

Roxborough Marine dies in Iraq

By George E. Beetham Jr.

Marine Lance Cpl. Adam C. Conboy died in Anbar Province, Iraq, on April 12 in what military authorities termed a "non-hostile incident." Adam lived in Roxborough all his life. He was 21.

He was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force home based at Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. He was deployed to Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom and had been in Iraq for only eight weeks when he died.

A Marine Corps spokesman at Kaneohe Bay said late last week the incident remains under investigation.

Lance Cpl. Conboy graduated third in his basic training class in the Marine Corps training center at Parris Island, South Carolina, and was promoted to Private First Class before graduating.

From Parris Island, he was assigned to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, before reporting to Kaneohe Bay last October. Recently he was promoted to Lance Corporal.

"Serving in the Marine Corps was the highlight of his life," said his mother, Mary Warner.

"He decided it was the duty of his generation to serve," she said. "He felt it was in the tradition of his forefathers."

He chose the Marine Corps because his grandfather, Charles X. Conboy, had served in the Marines during World War II. His grandfather was able to attend Adam's basic training graduation.

"It was a moment in time," Mary commented.

Adam stayed in touch with his family by phone while serving. He called when his unit left Kaneohe Bay and again from Ireland on his way to Iraq. When he called from Iraq, there was a change in the tone of his voice, his mother recalled.

Adam called home on the Sunday before his death and asked for each of his brothers and sisters. And the day before he died, Mary said she received a letter in which he wrote, "I'm fine - I promise, Mom."

During his childhood in Roxborough, Adam was an All American boy, Mary said.

He played baseball in the 21st Ward Junior Baseball League at least half his life, and he had a lot of friends.

(Continued on page 8)



Lance Cpl. Adam C. Conboy

L/Cpl. Conboy, dies in Iraq ...

"He looked out for his brothers and sisters. He was a typical oldest son," Mary said.

"I want people to realize the things we take for granted," she said, adding that these things come because of the service of our young people serving in the military. "We need to get down on our knees one night a week and give thanks," she commented.

Survivors, besides his mother, include his father, Charles J. Conboy; his step-father, Gary M. Warner; his maternal grandmother Geraldine, wife of Harold J. Jones; paternal grandparents Charles X. and Dorothy Conboy; sisters Kaitlin E. Conboy, Meagan D.

Conboy, Morgan E. Warner, Grace A. Warner, Megan A. Warner, Michelle M. Warner; brothers Evan A. and Ryan T. Conboy.

He was the grandson of the late Martin Patrick Raftler.

A funeral mass will be held at St. John the Baptist Church, 119 Rector St., on May 24 at 10 a.m. Interment will follow at Westminster Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Adam C. Conboy Memorial Fund, c/o Wachovia Bank, 6128 Ridge Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19128.

Funeral arrangements were handled by Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home, Phoenixville.