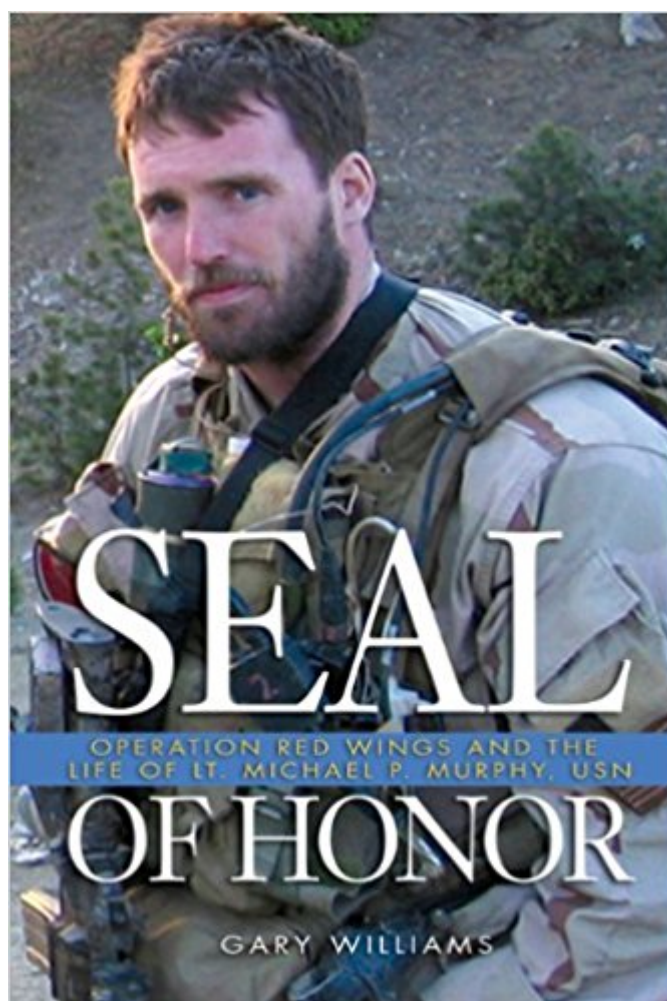


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Seal Of Honor: Operation Red Wings And The Life Of Lt. Michael P. Murphy, USN



Synopsis

Lt. Michael Patrick Murphy, a Navy SEAL, earned the Medal of Honor on 28 June 2005 for his bravery during a fierce fight with the Taliban in the remote mountains of eastern Afghanistan. He is the first to receive the nation's highest military honor for service in Afghanistan, Lt. Murphy was also the first naval officer to earn the medal since the Vietnam War, and the first SEAL to be honored posthumously. A young man of great character, he is the subject of Naval Special Warfare courses on character and leadership, and an Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer, naval base, school, post office, ball park, and hospital emergency room have been named in his honor. A bestselling book by the sole survivor of Operation Red Wings, Marcus Luttrell, has helped make Lt. Murphy's SEAL team's fateful encounter with the Taliban one of the Afghan war's best known engagements. Published on the 5th anniversary of the engagement, SEAL of Honor also tells the story of that fateful battle, but it does so from a very different perspective being focused on the life of Lt. Murphy. This biography uses his heroic action during this deadly firefight in Afghanistan, as a window on his character and attempts to answer why Lt. Murphy readily sacrificed his life for his comrades. SEAL of Honor is the story of a young man, who was noted by his peers for his compassion and for his leadership being guided by an extraordinary sense of duty, responsibility, and moral clarity. In tracing Lt. Murphy's journey from a seemingly ordinary life on New York's Long Island, to that remote mountainside a half a world away, SEAL of Honor will help readers understand how he came to demonstrate the extraordinary heroism and selfless leadership that earned him the nation's highest military honor. Moreover, the book brings the Afghan war back to the home front, focusing on Lt. Murphy's tight knit family and the devastating effect of his death upon them as they watched the story of Operation Red Wings unfold in the news. The book attempts to answer why Lt. Murphy's service to his country and his comrades was a calling faithfully answered, a duty justly upheld, and a life, while all too short, well lived.

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Customer Reviews

Gary Williams is a graduate of the University of Dayton with a master's degree in public administration. Married with six children, he is a career 30-year employee with the state of Ohio. He is the author of the *Siege in Lucasville*.

Not as much of a picture of the battle as "Sole Survivor", from the only one that survived the battle, but just as engrossing. Lord, these guys have guts! Murphy was a heck of a leader. This is a wonderful story of courage, determination, sacrifice, camaraderie and leadership. So painfully sad such good men die and how inspiring for those of us that are the benefactors of these brave Americans' answer to the call of duty. Screw the politics, this is about the character of our military forces. War is horrible. Politics, these days, is highly questionable regarding the use of our military. These guys should be honored.

Sagir13, I ordered *Seal of Honor: Operation Red Wings and the Life of Lt. Michael P. Murphy, USN* for my granddaughter, the author, Mr. Gary Williams will be at Virginia Tech for a speech and autographs tomorrow. Her paperback book is at home and would involve shipping. I thought it best to purchase a hard back copy and have shipped to her via . What a surprise she saw when she opened her package today. Not only is the Seal of Honor already autographed by Mr. Williams, but also signed by Maureen Murphy and John D. Murphy, Lt. Murphy's parents. As a devoted and very patriotic member of the Cadet Corp of Virginia Tech, I think my granddaughter receiving this very special copy was meant to be. Wonderful things do happen, it is so special to her and she intends to show the already signed book to Mr. Williams. Thank you. >

This is a comprehensive look at how SEALs are made and function with the emphasis on this great young man and his team who gave the full measure of sacrifice and devotion to honor and duty. I read *Lone Survivor* several years ago and have another book on *Operation Red Wings* to read next but, as a Navy veteran (submarines, 1968-1972) and a career firefighter (30 years) I was humbled

and in awe of these brave young men who were (and still are) so committed that they are willing to sacrifice everything for their dream. I wish every American could read this account and realize that duty, honor and sacrifice still matter. Unfortunately, too many people want to blame the warriors for the war. None of us would be able to read these accounts or enjoy what we have without these incredible men and women. Thank you Gary Williams for telling the tale that needs to be told in a way that leaves no ambiguity about service and devotion.

Michael Murphy is a hero and very deserving of the Medal of Honor. The book, however, was dry and hard to read at times. The author was almost too detailed, especially when speaking of the funeral and Michael's childhood. It was like reading an encyclopedia in many chapters versus the account of Michael's life. The book's title says "Operation Red Wings and the Life of Lt. Michael P. Murphy", but there is very little covering Operation Red Wings. I appreciate reading about the awards and honors given to Michael after his death, but again, way more than I needed to know. I'm sure Michael's family and friends appreciated all the information put into the book and I credit the author for all the work it seems like he put in to writing this. But as a reader who wanted to read about Michael's experiences in the Navy and Operation Red Wings, I was a bit disappointed. I would be interested in reading more accounts of Michael's life, but I would not read another book by this author.

This book honors the life, service, and death of a true American Hero. However it does so in only 208 pages. It gives good detail in the upbringing and training of Lieutenant Murphy, but skims by the battle that cost him his life in about 2 pages. I realize the book's goal is to honor the fallen warrior, but the human curiosity begs for information on the firefight that killed the three Navy SEAL's. Read Marcus Luttrell's book "Lone Survivor" before or after this book. It goes into great detail of the battle, and just how brave and selfless Lieutenant Murphy really was.

I read Fearless before this book and expected something similar. I have read 83% of this book and can't wait to end it so I can move on to the next one which I hope is much better. This author talks a lot about military protocol, speeches that individuals made, military codes etc. I am past the point of this brave individual's death and but yet have only read a brief description as to how he died. Nothing about the operation, how the fire fight went down and what exemplary act was committed by LT. Michael Murphy to award him the medal of honor. I am not down playing his death or the fact that he should not have received the medal, I just want to read about it in the book. The respect and

admiration I have for these individuals is indescribable. They are truly the ultimate warriors. I am very disappointed with this particular author and how he wrote this book. It does not do justice for the brave men and women that lost their lives and continue to lose their lives in this war. I just wished the author had done a better job at researching the accounts and the cause of Lt. Murphy's death.

Being from a military family, we honor and respect all our military and hope those still fighting can return home safe soon. Having a significant other that was old school law enforcement /tactical division /bomb squad I know his dedication & safety to his team is number one. Just as LT. Michael Murphy's job was in Operation Red Wings. He knew what he had to do for their mission and the odds were against them, things just didn't go right. These men put up one hell of a fight. Michael Murphy, Marcus Luttrell, Danny Dietz, Matthew Axelson, you will be honored and remembered by so many. God Rest Your Souls, Marcus, how hard it must have been to leave these guys we know your story and you fought just like them until the end. What Lt. Murphy did to get help was outstanding and cost him his life, we all know. Really glad that Marcus made it home. You are all True American Heroes. Thank you and bless you and stay safe.

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