Distinguished Alumni Award

Honoring

Jeremiah Parvin ’01

June 4, 2016

The Distinguished Flying Cross with Valor is awarded to any officer or enlisted person of the Armed Forces of the United States who distinguished her or himself in actual combat in support of operations by heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight. For one Airman, what seemed to be a standard mission in 2008, was recognized with this award in January 2015.

Jeremiah Parvin ’01 recently returned from his fourth deployment and has logged more than 578 combat hours. During his third deployment to Afghanistan, six Marines needed his help, and they needed it right away. Maj. Parvin and his wingman, Capt. Aaron Cavasos—both A-10C Thunderbolt II pilots—made their way through a challenging flying environment to rescue a Marine Special Operations Team that was ambushed and being overrun; some were injured. Parvin diverted enemy fire toward himself and the Marines had time to find safety.

Jeremiah has said that there is no greater honor than knowing the person you are supporting remains safe and is able to go home to whoever they have to go back to. He believes everything in life is about luck and timing, whether during a mission or otherwise. And he says every day he uses critical thinking, preparedness and time management—skills he gained through his Davidson education.

On his Davidson College application, Jeremiah answered a question about the Honor Code. He wrote, “I perceive my role in the Davidson College community to be as a leader and a good role model. As a prospective two-sport athlete, I will demonstrate that one can excel at academics, sports and service without having to lie, steal or cheat.” He also wrote about the family atmosphere and the integrity that are cornerstones of the Davidson experience.

While at Davidson, Jeremiah operated with a strong belief in trust and friendship while he participated in varsity baseball, varsity football and as a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

A dedicated member of our country’s Armed Forces, a committed husband to Vanessa, and father to the couple’s four young children, Maximus, Brock, Vivian and Owen, Jeremiah has made the Davidson family proud.

Jeremiah, for your selfless service on behalf of the United States of America; for your unwavering commitment to helping those in need; and for your dedication to upholding your core values throughout your life and career, we honor you with the Distinguished Alumni Award on the occasion of your 15th Reunion on June 4, 2016.