Athlete Stacy Pearsall

Name: Stacy Pearsall

Hometown: Canton, S.D.

Rank:
Staff Sergeant, Retired

AFSC:
3V0X2 (Aerial Combat Photojournalist)

Units:
- 1st Combat Camera Squadron, Joint Base Charleston, S.C.
- Joint Analysis Center, U.S. European Command, United Kingdom
- Joint Intelligence Center

Injury Type:
Cervical spine trauma, upper extremity impairment, traumatic brain injury, and post traumatic stress disorder

Date of Injury:
2004 and 2007

Current occupation:
Civilian photojournalist

Goals:
Help other veterans transition to civilian life and seamless go through the medical board and Veterans Affairs compensation appointments. To be a successful business owner.

Stacy Pearsall was an Air Force aerial combat photojournalist and currently works as a freelance photographer and owns/directs the Charleston Center of Photography.

Stacy L. Pearsall got her start as an Air Force combat photographer at the age of 17. During her time in the service, she traveled to over 41 countries, and attended S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University. During three tours in Iraq, she earned the Bronze Star Medal and Commendation with Valor for heroic actions under fire. Now medically retired due to combat wounds, Pearsall works worldwide as a freelance photographer, and is the owner and Director of the Charleston Center for Photography at http://www.ccforp.org .

Pearsall gained wide public exposure when she shared her experiences as a female combat photojournalist with Oprah Winfrey on the media star's television show in February 2009. Articles about Pearsall and her award winning photography have also graced the pages of Popular Photography magazine and Los Angeles Times.

Her work has appeared in print and television media, including Time magazine, New York Times, CNN, BBC, Los Angeles Times, USA Today, Soldier of Fortune, Sports Illustrated, and Bahrain Times. Pearsall's photographs have also been featured in the Oscar-nominated PBS production, Operation Homecoming, and GQ magazine's "This is Our War." Her portrayal of combat experiences in Iraq, "Inside An Ambush," was published in News Photographer, the National Press Photographers Association's (NPPA) magazine in 2007.

Pearsall was one of only two women to win NPPA's Military Photographer of the Year competition, and the only woman to have earned it twice. She was also honored as the Air Force Veteran of the Year in a musical tribute to America's heroes by the Air Force Band and PBS. In Charleston, she was presented with the Trojan Labor American Hero Award for 2009.

In 2007, Pearsall's project titled Birth Control Glasses was featured at LOOK3 Festival of the Photograph. The Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art presented a selection of her photographs in an exhibition, War on Terror: Inside/Out from.