

CW5 Rolando G. Rios is a native of Batesville, TX. He entered active military service in 1986 to become a **SOLDIER**.

CW5 Rios served in numerous assignments as a 13Foxtrot Fire Support Specialist beginning in Kitzingen, Germany with 6th BN, 41st FA, 3rd ID "Rock of the Marne", followed by 5th BN, 1st FA, 5th ID "Red Devils" at Fort Polk, LA. During his assignment at Fort Polk, CW5 Rios deployed to Panama in September 1989 where he participated in Operation Just Cause (December 20, 1989), which at the time was the largest and most complex operation since the Vietnam War.

CW5 Rios' next assignment as a forward observer and then Company Fire Support NCO was with 2nd BN, 11th FA, 25th ID (L) "Tropic Lightning" at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii and then with 1st CAV DIV where he served as Fire Support NCO for Alpha Troop, 7th U.S. Cavalry Squadron "Gary Owen". CW5 Rios was inducted into the famous Audie Murphy club and was selected for Warrant Officer Candidate School in September 1996. CW5 Rios completed Warrant Officer Basic Course in the spring of 1997.

CW5 Rios' first assignment as a Warrant Officer was with 3rd BN, 6th FA, 10th MTN DIV (L) "Climb to Glory" as the Q-36 Radar Section Leader and Brigade Targeting Officer. He later assumed the duties of the Division Counter-Fire Officer and Division Targeting Officer. He deployed in December 2001 to Karshi-Khanabad, Uzbekistan and Bagram, Afghanistan in support of Operation Anaconda. CW5 Rios' next assignment was with 1st Armored Division "Iron Soldiers" at Wiesbaden, Germany, where he served as the Division Field Artillery Intelligence Officer (FAIO). In March 2003, CW5 Rios deployed to Baghdad, Iraq as the FAIO assigned to 1st AD in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF I). CW5 Rios later assumed the duties of the Division Targeting Officer for 1AD. In 2007, CW5 Rios deployed again with 1AD to Tikrit, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF 07-09). In 2009, CW5 Rios deployed with 1AD to Baghdad, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF10-11 and Operation New Dawn). CW5 Rios was then reassigned to V Corps as the Corps Targeting Officer in 2011. In 2012, CW5 Rios deployed to Kabul, Afghanistan as the V Corps / ISAF Joint Command (IJC) Targeting Officer in support of Operation Enduring Freedom structured under the command of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. From 2013-2016, CW5 Rios served at US Army Japan as a staff officer and planner. From 2016-2019, CW5 Rios was assigned to US Army Europe as the Senior Targeting Officer. From October 2019-January 2022, CW5 Rios was the WO Instruction Branch Course Manager before assuming the position of the Chief Warrant Officer of the Field Artillery.

CW5 Rios' deployments include: Operation Just Cause (1989), Operation Enduring Freedom (December 2001-March 2002), Operation Iraqi Freedom I (March 2003-July 2004), Operation Iraqi Freedom 07-09 (September 2007-December 2008), Operation

Iraqi Freedom 10-11 / Operation New Dawn (December 2009-December 2010), and Operation Enduring Freedom (May 2012-May 2013).

CW5 Rios' military education includes all Warrant Officer PME, Joint Targeting School, Joint Firepower Course, Military Deception and Special Technical Operations Planners Course. CW5 Rios holds a Master's Degree in Homeland Security and is currently a doctoral candidate with American Military University.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit (with one oak leaf cluster (OLC)), Bronze Star Medal (with two OLC), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (with three OLC), Army Commendation Medal (with five OLC), Army Achievement Medal (with nine OLC), Humanitarian Service Medal, and Air Assault Badge. He is a recipient of the Ancient Order of Saint Barbara and is a Senior Army Instructor.

CW5 Rios has been married to the former Diana Rodriguez for 31 years.