



**Russell Dobbs**

**M-8708**

Russell Dobbs, 54 of Tampa, Florida passed away on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026. Russell was awarded his qualification as a Special Forces Engineer in 1999 and was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Special Warfare Training Group. Later he was reassigned to the 5<sup>th</sup> SFG(A) and served as the Senior Engineer Sergeant on ODA 532 and 534 during Operation Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom. Russell is survived by his wife (Megan), son (Russell), and daughter (Kenzie). A graveside service with Full Military Honors was held at the Sarasota National Cemetery on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Russell Charles Dobbs

January 1, 20226 (Age 54)

Tampa, Florida

5th SFG(A) (ODA 532 and ODA 534)

SFA Chapter 60, Mem# M-8708

Sergeant First Class Russell Charles Dobbs, age 54, Tampa Florida passed away on Thursday, January 1st, 2026. Russ is leaving behind a legacy of loyalty, strength and quiet integrity. A military hero and a man of unwavering character, Russ lived his life guided by honor, love and an unshakable sense of calm.

Russ was fiercely devoted to his family and friends. He loved deeply and protected wholeheartedly, always making those around him feel safe, accepted and valued. With Russ, you could be entirely yourself-he did not judge, he simply stood by you. His steady presence and grounded nature reminded others not to sweat the small stuff, a lesson he lived every day.

Texan by birth and heart, Russ settled in Tampa, Florida in 2009, where he found a place he was happy to call home. He loved the wide-open roads and the freedom he felt riding his Harley-Davidson. Russ was a creature of habit, finding comfort in routine and simple traditions. Whether it was smoking something on the grill, spending time with friends and family, or cheering (maybe screaming) whenever America's Team – The Dallas Cowboys were on, Russ found joy in the familiar moments that brought people together.

Russ is a veteran Green Beret of the United States Army and a proud member of 1st Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne). Russ embodied the values of service and dedication. He served his country in significant operations such as Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. He also achieved many military accomplishments, but he was the proudest of serving as a Senior Engineer Sergeant for ODA 532 and ODA 534. His military career instilled a profound sense of discipline and camaraderie that carried into his personal life, where he cherished the bonds he formed. He spent close to two decades overseas, standing shoulder to shoulder with his brothers in arms-men who became family for life.

Russ is survived by his wife, Megan Dobbs; his daughter, Kenzie Wheeler (Josh); his son, Russell Charles ("Charlie") Dobbs Jr.; and his cherished granddaughter, Hazel. He also leaves behind two very special nieces, Olivia and Emma Anderson, who hold a special place in his heart. Additionally, Russ leaves behind extended family, who cared for him very much and many friends from all walks of life.

Russ will be remembered as a strong and loyal man, a protector, a soldier and quiet professional, a husband, a father, grandfather and a friend. His legacy lives on in the love he gave freely, the acceptance he offered without judgment and the calm strength he carried through life. He will be deeply missed and forever honored.

A visitation will be held at Blount & Curry Life Event Center, located at 605 S MacDill Ave, Tampa, FL 33609, on January 15, 2026, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Following the visitation a Burial and Full Military Honors will be at Sarasota National Cemetery Thursday, January 15, 2026, at 2:00 pm.