

Capt. Joshua Mantz

Aide to Brig. Gen. David C. Petersen, Deputy Commanding General

1st Infantry Division, Ft. Riley

Originally from Sunbury, Pa., Capt. Joshua Mantz joined the U.S. Army after graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 2005.

Mantz was first deployed in 2006 with the 1st Cavalry Division to East Baghdad. On April 21, 2007, Mantz was on patrol when he and his section leader were attacked by a sniper. The sniper's bullet ricocheted through the other soldier and into Mantz's leg, severing his femoral artery. When the medic arrived on site, he rushed Mantz to FOB Loyalty, where a team worked to save Mantz's life while he flat-lined for 15 minutes. When the team was able to regain Mantz's heartbeat and stabilize his condition, he was medevaced to Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Over the course of the next four months, Mantz received treatment for both his visible and invisible wounds of combat. Mantz credits the early psychological health care treatment he received at Walter Reed for preventing the development of serious psychological health concerns such as post traumatic stress disorder.

Within months of his injuries, Mantz returned to Iraq to complete his deployment.

Today, Mantz is based at Ft. Riley where he is the Aide to Brig. Gen. David C. Petersen, the Deputy Commanding General, Rear, 1st Infantry Division. He is expected to deploy to Iraq as a company commander later this year.