



2020 WEEKEND TO REMEMBER HONORED WARRIORS



Scott F. O'Grady
U.S. Airforce – Fighter Pilot
Bosnia

Brooklyn native Scott Francis O'Grady always wanted to be a pilot. Growing up in a military family, Scott got his pilot license when he was a teenager living in Spokane, Washington. He attended Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, Arizona, joined the ROTC and set his eyes on the Air Force. In December 1989, he began his military pilot training and spent the next two years learning the craft of the fighter pilot. Later based in South Korea, some of his missions involved flying along the demilitarized zone between the North and the South. In 1994, flying out of Aviano AFB, Italy, during the Balkan War, Capt. O'Grady helped make NATO history when he became part of its first combat mission during the Balkan civil war and took part in the Banja Luka incident where he fired upon six hostile enemy aircraft. On June 2, 1995, on another routine combat patrol flying an oval pattern over northwest Bosnia, Scott was shot down by an SA-6

mobile missile launcher and forced to eject from his flaming F-16c into hostile Serbian held territory. After nearly a week of evading the Serbs he was eventually rescued by Marines. Scott co-wrote two best-selling books, telling his incredible story in *Basher Five-Two: The True Story of F-16 Fighter Pilot Captain Scott O'Grady* and *Return with Honor*, which details the spiritual effects of his experiences. The 2001 film, *Behind Enemy Lines*, is loosely based upon his experiences. His courageous story has been documented on the Discovery Channel presentation: *Behind Enemy Lines* and Scott has been featured on CNN's Voices of the Millennium, and the Then and Now series that focus on the most influential personalities of the 20th Century. After 12 years of military service, Scott entered inactive service reserve status. He enrolled at Dallas Theological Seminary and graduated with a master's degree in the spring of 2007 and now calls Texas home

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