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Buffalo area native Nicholas Warden killed battling ISIS in Syria

Updated Jul 12, 2017;

Posted Jul 12, 2017

Nicholas Warden.JPG

Nicholas Alan
Warden (*Screen
shot from YPG*)

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NYup.com

Nicholas Alan Warden, of Depew, died battling against ISIS in Syria last week, according to reports.

Warden, 29, served as a volunteer fighting alongside the Kurdish People's Protection Units, known as the YPG, outside of Raqqa, Syria, according to [The Buffalo News](#).

Warden, along with Robert Grodt, of California, and a British man, Luke Rutter, also died in the battle.



The deaths bring the number to nine U.S. citizens killed in northern Syria in the fight against ISIS, and the second U.S. military veteran, according to the Military Times.

Mark Warden, Nicholas' father told The Buffalo News that his son wanted to become a soldier since he was 13-years-old, when terrorists attacked and destroyed New York City's World Trade Center with hijacked airplanes in 2001.

"He was very strong-willed and very strong-minded and very much against ISIS and these terrorist groups," Warden, an Army veteran, said during an interview with The Buffalo News. "And he wanted to do whatever he could to get rid of them. He said not enough people are helping so he had to help."

YPG Martyr Nicholas Alan Warden (R...
Posted by YPG
99,752 Views

In a video posted by the YPG on Facebook, Nicholas Warden said he was from Buffalo and he joined the YPG in February 2017 to fight terrorists overseas.

"I joined the YPG to fight ISIS because of the terror attacks they were doing in Orlando, San Bernarndino, Nice and Paris," Warden said in the video.

A Cleveland High School graduate, Warden served in the Army for four years and nine months and did two tours of duty in Afghanistan. He reached the rank of sergeant during his years of service.

Warden has an 18-month-old daughter in France.

According to his father, Warden left the French Foreign Legion last year and had plans to take a six-figure job with Triple Canopy, a contracting firm that works with the U.S. Army.

But with ISIS waging attacks in southern France, near where his daughter lived, Warden decided to return to the battlefield. He signed on with the Kurdish group in February and he last spoke to his father in May.

According to The Buffalo News, the U.S. government does not support Americans volunteering to fight for the Kurdish group.

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