



## YOUNGSTOWN MUNICIPAL COURT VETERAN TREATMENT COURT

26 S. Phelps St., Youngstown OH 44503

**Hon. Robert P. Milich**

Courtroom 2 – 330.742.8855

### **Ryan A. Yurchison Mentor Group**

Veteran Treatment Court in Youngstown is organizing a Mentor Group, whose volunteers will serve in support to those who enter the Veteran Treatment Court program. The Mentor Group is named in honor of Ryan A. Yurchison, who passed away May 22, 2010, as the result of the effects of war.

Ryan's mother, Cheryl DeBow, is a Probation Officer with Youngstown Municipal Court. As the mother of two combat veterans, Mrs. DeBow witnessed the heartbreaking issues and struggles that our soldiers return with, and the need and value of a Veteran Treatment Court. She has supported the idea of a local Veteran Treatment Court for six years.

Ryan Alexander Yurchison entered the U.S. Army on Sept. 16, 2003, and was stationed in Baumholder, Germany in the 4/27FA 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division. He was following in the footsteps of his older brother, Michael J. Yurchison, who was also serving in the Army. Ryan was deployed to Kuwait Nov. 10, 2005, and then to Iraq June 10, 2006. While Ryan was on guard duty Sept. 14, 2006, a dump truck full of sand and 800-1,400 pounds of explosives approached the front gate and exploded, killing 3 soldiers and injuring 43. Ryan was among the injured. He received wounds from the blast and was temporarily blinded from shrapnel. He returned to duty within a week and continued serving in the combat zone until Nov. 7, 2006. He was honorably discharged Feb. 16, 2007.

Any military veteran interested in assisting and/or helping serve as a volunteer in The Ryan A. Yurchison Mentor Group Program for the Youngstown Municipal Court's Veterans' Court should contact Judge Milich at (330) 742-8855. John P. Brown III, Post National Commander, AMVETS, is program coordinator.

***“The Veteran’s Mentoring Program mission is to make certain to the best of our abilities that no one is left behind. We will find them, offer them assistance, assess their needs, and help them solve their problems. We will support the veteran through their readjustment to civilian life, assist the veteran to navigate though the court, treatment and VA systems, and act as a mentor, advocate and ally.”***