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## Military death takes member of a Metro family on Christmas Day.

By GAYLE ANDERSON

(Jan. 5, 2006) Three Metro employees suffered the loss of a family member in Iraq over the Christmas holidays.

Army Specialist Sergio Gudino, nephew of Metro Bus Operator Marcos Gudino and Mechanic Ernesto Gudino and cousin of Copy Center Operator Raul Gomez, was killed on Christmas Day when a roadside bomb exploded alongside the tank he was driving during combat operations in Baghdad.

The news was delivered to the family home in Pomona by an Army chaplain Christmas morning. Others learned of the 22-year-old soldier's death in national news stories.

"He was my cousin and he was my hero," said Gomez. "He was a strong athlete, a straight-A student who wanted to finish college, and he was a great father, too."

News reports say the Army Specialist deployed out of Fort Stewart, Ga., returned to Pomona from Iraq last fall after suffering a serious injury to his shoulder. Gudino returned to his unit in October, dismissing an option to remain out of the war zone because of his injury.

Gudino was married and had a 3-year-old son, Cyrus. He was the son of Victor Gudino, a former SCRTD employee who worked as a revenue mechanic from 1978 through 1984. He leaves behind his wife, Candy, father Victor and mother Maria, and three brothers, Victor, Eddie and Andrew.

Visitation begins at 10 a.m., Friday, at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Glendale. Services with

full military honors will be held this Saturday at



**Sergio Gudino**

Born March 7, 1983.  
Died Dec. 25, 2006.

*As reported in the Army Times > Army Spc. Sergio Gudino, 22, of Pomona, Calif.; assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Ga.; was killed Dec. 25 when an improvised explosive device detonated near his M1A1 tank during combat operations in Baghdad.*



Sergio Gudino, foreground at left, is a child in this family portrait. Victor Gudino, his father, is top right.

2 p.m. in the Church of the Recessional at Forest Lawn.

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