



SERGEANT JEFFREY B. DODGE

VETERANS CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE

DAKOTA RAGER (C'23)

STAFF SERGEANT RONALD R. SAGERS MEMORIAL

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Dakota Rager joined the United States Army

at the age of 17 during his senior year of high school. He served in the United States Army as an engineer diver for seven years. After completing a year of training and graduating from Dive school, he was stationed at Fort Eustis, Virginia. While serving in the Army, Rager traveled all over the United States and the world completing missions such as aiding in the recovery of the remains of fallen service members from previous wars and conflicts, repairing United State Army Corps of Engineers' facilities, and supporting war efforts. Finishing his time as a sergeant based on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Honolulu, Hawaii, Rager moved to North Carolina where he was offered the opportunity to become a firefighter for the city of Raleigh. Rager has recently turned his sights on becoming a helicopter pilot. His research led him to discover the University of Dubuque and he moved to Iowa to start his education in fall 2020. He has a 4.0 GPA, amassed over 180 flight hours, and is exploring becoming a certified flight instructor for the University of Dubuque's Department of Aviation.