

SOLDIER IS A HERO, NOT JUST A NUMBER

By **ROBIN MIZRAHI**

The National Enquirer salutes the 2,000th American victim of the war in Iraq.

George Alexander, 34, died like so many of his brave comrades – trying to save the lives of his brothers in arms.

George, below, was known to his fellow soldiers as “Grandpa” because he was one of the oldest and most experienced men in his unit.

He was on his third tour of duty when a roadside bomb exploded under his vehicle.

But the heroic staff ser-



geant helped pull a number of soldiers from the wreck.

His wife Fina said: “He saved a number of his soldiers’ lives in exchange for his own.”

Alexander was transported to his home state of Texas where he died in an Army burn unit five days later on October 22.

His sister Sasha Spence said: “He was a wonderful brother, and I would do anything to have him back.”

Earlier this year, Alexander spent three months at home with Fina and their two children due to a broken arm.

His mother, Anne Spence, said he didn’t want to return to Iraq, but knew it was his duty.