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Son of retired Tennessee guardsman follows in father's footsteps

COTTONTOWN, Tenn. – Pvt. Peyton Ford followed his father's footsteps and made the commitment to serve his state and country by enlisting in the Tennessee Army National Guard as a combat medic on Sept. 27.

Ford will attend 10 weeks of Basic Combat Training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where he will learn basic soldiering skills such as land navigation, marksmanship, and Army traditions.

He will then attend an additional seven weeks at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, to complete Advanced Individual Training specializing as a combat medic, where he will learn how to provide emergency medical care. Upon completing the school, he will be certified as an Emergency Medical Technician.

"Pvt. Ford is a legacy in the Tennessee Army National Guard as his father retired in 2016," said Sgt. Justin Lynch, Tennessee Army National Guard Recruiter. "Our organization is lucky to have him within our ranks."

Retired Sgt. 1st Class Guy Ford retired in 2016 after serving in the National Guard for 19 years and completed three combat tours in Iraq, where he performed duties as a Bradley mechanic and truck commander. His son is now prepared to wear the same uniform he has seen his father wear his whole life.

"The military was always an option for me," said Ford. "I want to become a firefighter, so becoming a combat medic with the National Guard was a perfect fit. I am excited to continue our family's service in the National Guard."

Ford is a 2021 White House High School graduate and plans to utilize the education benefits offered by the National Guard when he attends college in the near future. He also plans to make use of the VA loan when he is prepared to become a homeowner.





Pvt. Peyton Ford poses with his father, Guy Ford, after enlisting in the Tennessee Army National Guard as a combat medic on Sept. 27. (Submitted Photo)

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