

BECAME A RANGER

BY: Skypilot

I just recently had the honor of going to Fort Benning, Ga. and seen my baby boy graduate Ranger School and put his Ranger Tab on him. We had a chance the night before to sit down and talk about the training and it didn't sound like they changed a thing. He was telling me the next class going through they would be cutting out the hand to hand combat course, which makes no sense to me, but I guess that is the new Army. We talked and I thought and told him I graduated forty one years and four months before him. God I'm so proud of him. Please say a prayer for him 2LT Todd Donaldson and our other TROOPS.

We left here going south on 81 and no sooner then we hit Maryland it started raining and kept it up all the way to Atlanta, Ga. We checked it to base visitors housing (one advantage of being retired military) we stayed in a beautiful Cabin (slept eight) and the white tail deer were feeding and watering all around the Cabin. It was neat to get up every morning and see the Does and Fawns right outside eating, my grandsons got a big kick out of it. Coming back was the same story except the further north you got it turned into an ice storm, with a bad accident of N - 85 in West Virginia. A south bound trucker took out an RV jumped the center strip and took out four cars. Not sure if anyone was hurt but they brought in a front loader to clean up what was left of the RV.

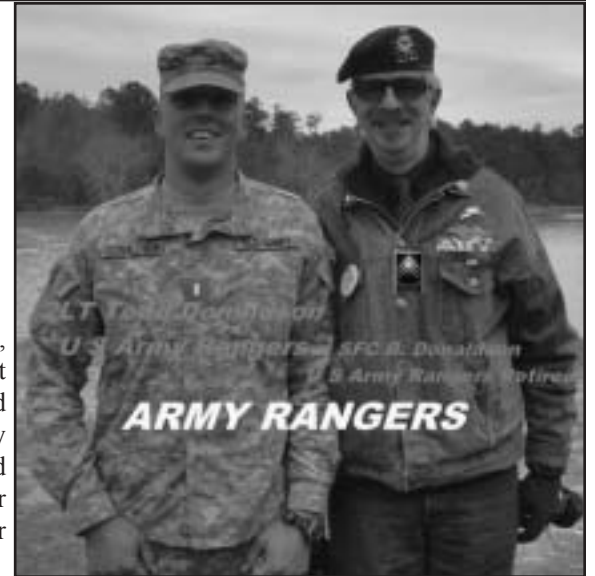


He graduated on December 11 and the next day he took us through The National Infantry Museum (just open this past June). It was dedicated to the Army Infantryman and covered from the Revolution War to what is going on now over in Iraq and Afghanistan. We spent three hours inside and still didn't see it all. They had a Glider used on D-Day, a Huey gun ship from LZ Xray in Vietnam, and a Armor personal carrier from Iraq, plus thousands of other things. If your ever in Columbus, Ga. you have to take the time to go through and every one on site is very knowledgeable to answer questions. It is located at 1775 Legacy Way Columbus, Ga. 31903. WWW.NATIONALINFANTRYMUSEUM.COM is the web site address that will show you a little, you have to remem-

ber they are brand spanking new, so as time goes by more will be on the site.

This trip was a pain with the rain going down and the rain and ice coming home and sitting in traffic for four hours after the truck accident, but I'd make it again a thousand times over. I'm so proud of him for picking up the torch of FREEDOM and following in his dad's, great great Uncle SGT Alvin C. York Medal of Honor recipient WW1 and his Grandfather footsteps no one could ever know how much. Well I hope everyone had a joyous Christmas and Safe New Year and until next month " KEEP ON TRIKEN' ". Please pray for our TROOPS deployed for a safe and quick return, also our POWs and MIAs and their families who still wait the return of their loved ones. May The GREAT SPIRIT be with you all and GOD BLESS AMERICA!

Skypilot



2LT Todd Donaldson & Skypilot



The National Infantry Museum

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