Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly "Spotlights" our June 2012 Patriot of the Month



Alec Peterson

Sponsored by:

Kings Highway Chapter Sikeston, Missouri



Alec Petersen is a 26 year old native Missourian, born in Sikeston. He attended Charleston, Missouri public school where he was an outstanding athlete and graduated as valedictorian. He went on to study pre-medicine at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee.

While at Vanderbilt, Alec volunteered to participate in the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps Program (ROTC). He was appointed ROTC Battalion Commander in his fourth year and was awarded the Army's George C. Marshall Award. During college, he also earned the Army Airborne Badge and the Army Air Assault Badge. He graduated from Vanderbilt magna cum laude and was commissioned an officer in the United States Army the same day.

Upon graduation, Alec immediately entered active duty in the United States Army and became an intelligence officer with the 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Kentucky. At the Army Intelligence Center at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, he was awarded the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge in Gold and graduated top of his class.

Petersen deployed to the Hindu Cush Mountains on the Pakistan

border with the 1-187th Infantry Afghanistan Battalion – Air Assault. His responsibilities included enemy targeting and NATO International Security Assistance. Later he was reassigned to help spearhead what is known as the "Afghan Surge" in and around Kandahar in southern Afghanistan.

Captain Petersen's military awards include:

- Bronze Star Medal
- Army Commendation Medal
- Army Achievement Medal w/3 oak leaves
- National Defense Medal
- Afghanistan Campaign Medal
- Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
- NATO International Security Assistance Force Medal
- Meritorious Unit Citation
- Unit Combat Service Badge
- Combat Action Badge
- Army Parachutist Badge
- Air Assault Badge
- German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge in Gold

Alec is married to the former Christine Pope. He is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, First Baptist Church, Kappa Alpha Fraternity and Sons of the American Revolution.