

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Proudly Honors

Patriot of the Month

August 2023



Cory Stallings

United States Army

Sponsored by:

Sarah Barton Murphy Chapter, NSDAR

Both of my grandfathers served in the military during WW2. My paternal grandfather was in the Navy, and my maternal grandfather was in the Army. Most of my conversations was with my maternal grandfather, Elza “Boots” Stallings. He would tell me stories, and even had some military gear he kept that he would let us kids play with. Since my early teen years, I wanted to serve.



I joined the Delayed Entry Program, voluntarily, in 1999. I shipped to basic training in September of that year. I went to Ft. Jackson, SC, for my basic, then to Ft. Sill, OK, for my AIT as a Fire Direction Specialist in Field Artillery. I spent my first three years at Ft. Campbell, KY, where I attended Air Assault School, and rose to the rank of SGT, and went to Primary Leadership Development Course (PLDC) there as well. One thing I will never forget at Ft. Campbell, was being on a rapid deployment cycle and wherein we had to be able to deploy anywhere in the world within 18 hours of notice. I came home from physical training (PT) that morning to turn on the news and watch the second plane hit the World Trade Center. Within four hours, my unit had drawn our weapons and was ready to get on a plane, just awaiting the order. I had already reenlisted at the time with a goal to become a U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division (CID) Special Agent. To achieve this goal, I had to have law enforcement experience, so I reenlisted for Military Police School at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO. I was at a loss, and tried to stay with my Field Artillery unit to deploy, but the Army said no. After graduating MP school, I was assigned to 212th Military Police Company in Kitzingen, Germany. My unit was deployed to Kosovo for a peace keeping mission at the time, so I was on rear detachment working patrol. I had my family with me and was working 12-hour shifts, 9 days on and one day off.

A year later, I was deployed with my unit to Baghdad, Iraq. I spent a year there during my first tour. After completing this tour, we nearly immediately starting training for our second tour. During my second tour, the fighting was much more brutal, and I was injured by sniper fire in the Sadr City district of Baghdad. I was in the seventh month of my tour when this happened, and sent back to Germany. My unit remained and spent a total of 15 months there. There was a book written about the unit we were attached to, and includes many of our stories, entitled They Fought for Each Other.

After my second tour, I was sent to Ft. Rucker, AL, where I finally obtained my goal of going to CID school. As a CID agent, I worked many felony level investigations, from drug offences to murder. I was medically retired in 2012, after nearly 13 years of service.

After retiring from the Army, I worked two years as a patrol deputy with the Cape Girardeau County Sheriff's Office, and then went to seminary to become a pastor. I now co-pastor a mission church in Jackson, MO, while also participating in local BBQ competitions. I loved my time in the military, and still miss the comradery of my brothers and sisters in arms.

I currently live in Jackson, Missouri with my wife Wendy, daughter; Addy and step-daughter, Savannah. My son; Matthew, is currently serving in the military.