

# SUCCESS STORY

**“Growing up near Fort Leonard Wood, I was always around the Army, but never thought of it as the**

**career for me.** After high school, I moved to Springfield to pursue a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Management. As graduation approached, a friend suggested I join the Missouri Army National Guard to help pay some of my student loans and gain some additional job experience. I met with a recruiter, took the ASVAB, and eventually enlisted to become a 42F (Human Resources Information Systems Management Specialist) in the 1107th Aviation Group.

I deployed to Kuwait with the unit almost immediately after graduating from AIT. That was when I knew this was going to become a lifelong career and passion for me. I eventually reclassified to a 92A Logistical Supply Specialist in order to further my career. It was at this time that I began utilizing my education benefits and earned a Master of Science in Health Promotion and Wellness Management at Missouri State University, all paid for by the National Guard.

I always knew I wanted to pursue more in my career, but I didn’t know exactly where my path would take me. When I learned more about the Warrant Officer Corps and being a technical expert in my field, I set my sights on reaching that goal. I had the opportunity to be mentored, trained, and led by some of the best Soldiers and Leaders that the Missouri Army National Guard has to offer, and because of them, I knew I had what it took to become a Warrant Officer. I hit a few road bumps along the way, but I didn’t let that deter me. Eventually, I became a Warrant Officer Candidate and a few months later found myself in Fort Rucker, Alabama attending the Warrant Officer Candidate Course.

After 10 years of service, I am now a Warrant Officer 1 in the 1107th Aviation Group serving as the Supply Systems Technician. I’m excited to be a part of the tradition of mentoring, training, and advising Soldiers and continuing to shape the future of the Missouri Army National Guard.

**- HHD 1107 AV GRP  
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