



Re-enlisting Army Reserve Soldier Profiles

These Soldiers, like so many others, are meeting the challenges of today's Global War on Terror, while supporting various missions at home and around the globe. In commemoration of its 100th anniversary, the Army Reserve celebrates its proud history and honors the Soldiers who make it possible. Below are just a few of their stories.

Sergeant Walesca Burgos-Lopez, age 34, has served in the U.S. Army Reserve for 14 years. Her



inspiration for joining the Army Reserve was her father, who is a musician with the U.S. Army National Guard Army Band. Born and raised in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico, Burgos-Lopez's unit is stationed in Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico. In her military career, Burgos-Lopez is a Construction Equipment Mechanic, which is helpful in her civilian life when she or a family member experiences car troubles. As a civilian, Burgos-Lopez is employed by JMWaller Associates, who provide immense support and are incredibly proud of her representation at the April 23rd 100th Anniversary Reenlistment Ceremony. Regarding her participation in the 100th Anniversary Reenlistment Ceremony, Burgos-Lopez says "it is like a priceless gift and recognition of my years of service and my career as a U.S. Army Reserve Soldier. For years I have worked hard to be a proud, ready and relevant U.S. Army Reserve Soldier." She is looking forward to visiting the nation's capital for the first time in her life and believes taking part in the 100th Anniversary events will only increase her pride in belonging and remaining in the Army Reserve.

Specialist Ronald Cuevas, from Gulfport, Mississippi, joined the Army Reserve in 2002. He says he has always wanted to be in the military since he was a young child. When his mother became ill, the Army Reserve provided the opportunity to achieve his dream of enlisting in the Army while still being able to remain close to home to take care of his mother. Cuevas is a mechanic in the military, which had been his original civilian career path as well. He had worked as a mechanic for a few years until a recent civilian career switch where he is apprenticing to become an electrician. Cuevas is honored to be one of the 100 reenlisting in the April 23rd 100th Anniversary Reenlistment Ceremony in Washington, DC.

Staff Sergeant Jerame Dooly, is a Casualty Notification Noncommissioned Officer for the 157th Combat Sustainment Support Brigade (CSSB). Since 2005, he has performed more than 900 funerals and three casualty notifications. He joined the Army Reserve in November 2000 and was deployed to Fort Monroe, Virginia in support of Operation Noble Eagle from October 2001 to September 2002 with the 367th Military Police Company. In February 2003 Dooly was deployed to Iraq where he served until December 2003. Dooly is attending Northampton Community College located in Northampton, Pennsylvania for a degree in Criminal Justice. He is currently taking language classes to learn Arabic and Farsi.

Sergeant Bryan Denman, is 31 years old and served in the Army Reserve for five years. Denman's Grandfather graduated from West Point and his Great-Grandfather fought in World War I and World War II, therefore he felt led to follow in their footsteps. Denman signed his Army Reserve contract the day the Iraq War began as he knew that able bodied Americans were needed to fight. He was deployed to Iraq from 2004 to 2005. He says that being deployed has given him a greater appreciation for the many simple luxuries, such as running water and bathrooms, which Americans freely enjoy. Since childhood Denham always wanted to be a firefighter and the Army Reserve provided the training he needed to achieve his career goals. He is firefighter in both his military and civilian career. His civilian employer, Orting Valley Fire and Rescue, is extremely cooperative with his Army Reserve schedule and many of the Firehouse Captains are military veterans. Denham grew up in Seattle, Washington and his unit is stationed in Yakima, Washington. He is honored to have the opportunity to represent his country in the Army Reserve 100th Anniversary Reenlisting Ceremony on April 23rd.

Specialist Patricia Howes is 25 years old and has served in the Army Reserve since 2003.



Originally from a small town in Iowa, Howes decided to join the Army Reserve after seeing firsthand the benefits her family members received from being in the military. She currently resides in Des Moines, Iowa where her unit is also stationed. In 2005, Howes was deployed to Belad, Iraq for one year. While her military career was an administrative position, she was responsible for tasks such as guard duty while on her deployment. Her civilian career is closely tied with her military position. Howes is in administration for the military and responsible for the scheduling of the General and Chief of Staff of her command group in Des Moines. Howes sees the April 23rd 100th Anniversary Reenlistment

Ceremony has an amazing opportunity. She is extremely excited to be participating in a Reenlistment Ceremony conducted by the Lieutenant General Jack Stultz, Chief, Army Reserve. She believes the experience will be one of the most memorable in her life.

Sergeant Dustin Ketron, is from Greenville, South Carolina and is assigned to the 7225th Medical Support Unit (MSU) in Greenville where he is a Health Care Specialist. Ketron served in the United States Marine Corps from July 1994 until 1998. He began his Army career in November 2005 and was mobilized from the 7225th MSU in July 2006 to Fort Belvoir, Virginia where he served until December 2007 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In his civilian career, Ketron is an Emergency Medical Technician at INOVA-Alexandria Hospital in Alexandria, Virginia. His military career has been extremely helpful and transferred directly into his civilian career. Ketron is incredibly excited to be a part of this historic event commemorating the centennial of the U.S. Army Reserve.

Specialist Albert Orta, feels honored and privileged to have been chosen to participate in the April 23rd 100th Anniversary Reenlistment Ceremony in Washington, DC. Orta first served in the Active Army, but upon leaving he realized he missed the military lifestyle and decided to enlist in the Army Reserve. He has been an Army Reserve Soldier for three years. While serving Active duty, Orta was deployed to Korea from 1997 until 1998. He was deployed in 2005 to Egypt with the Army Reserve. Orta is primarily an engineer in his Army Reserve career, but also serves as an aviation mechanic. In his civilian career, he is employed by Toyota and works on the robots that paint and build the trucks. He says that Toyota has been extremely cooperative with his Army

Reserve schedule. Orta was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, but moved around a lot while growing up. He currently resides in San Antonio, Texas, where his unit is also stationed.

Staff Sergeant Feliciano Perez, age 26, has served in Army Reserve for one year, following six years of Active Duty service in Infantry. Perez notes that he joined the Reserve because, “I still wanted to wear the uniform, but I wanted a different field of work. I actually wanted to get into the medical field and continue my education.” Perez was deployed to Afghanistan from April 2004 until April 2005. He has received two awards, EIB (Expert in Infantry Badge) and CIB (Combat Infantry Badge). In the Army Reserve, Perez serves as a patient administrator specialist. He handles the paperwork of injured troops to transfer them out of theatre and into a medical facility, and then to discharge them from the military. He is currently a student, completing his degree at El Camino College and will enlist in the Police Academy in July 2008 to become a police officer for the Los Angeles County Police Department. When asked how he feels about participating in the 100th Anniversary, Perez says, “I feel honored. I’ve never re-enlisted before. [Joining the Army Reserve] has been a milestone in my career and I know this will be a milestone for the Army Reserve.” Perez looks forward to visiting the nation’s Capitol for the first time in his life and re-enlisting on the Army Reserve’s 100th Anniversary with his father by his side.



Sergeant Tandy Wilkinson is from Kirksville, Missouri, but is stationed and currently resides in Fort Shafter, Hawaii. She is 24 years old and has served in the Army Reserve for over seven years. In 2005 she was deployed to Landstuhl, Germany. For her military career, Wilkinson is a Unit Supply Sergeant, which she says has helped improve her organizational and multi-tasking skills. Wilkinson feels honored to be participating in the 100th Anniversary Reenlistment Ceremony on April 23, 2008. She says that after careful consideration and the support from family and friends, she believes she has made the right decision to reenlist and do what she can to support the U.S. Army Reserve.

