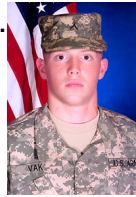


On April 12, 2013, Specialist E5 Hunter J. Vak, 21, son of James Vak of Grant, was deployed to Bahrain (a small island in the Persian Gulf) along with 160 other members of the 133rd Engineering Company of the Wyoming National Guard.



The Laramie, based unit will provide security operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The length of the mission is approximately 400 days.

There was a two-day Wyoming Army National Guard Yellow Ribbon program held in Laramie on April 8-9 for the families to attend. This program was to inform the families what to expect while their soldier is deployed.

Vak and his fellow soldiers have expressed that they are very proud of and ready for the opportunity to help defend the nation's freedoms. Their goals are to help make this world better, and safer for the masses that live in it and to keep the conflict away from U.S. shores and from families.

Anyone wishing to offer any support may contact Vak on his Facebook page. Vak suggests that those who are able, make a donation to the Wounded Warriors project.