

"My Military Hero"

My military hero is one of my best friends and my mother. I am one of the luckiest people in the world. My mother is so full of life. She is always putting the needs of others above her own. She makes me feel like I am the most important person in the world. My mother is a hero not because she is in the Army, jumps out of planes, or because she defends our country daily. She is a hero because she's a single mother who raises her children to respect ourselves and others, teaches us to be responsible and accountable for our actions, and because she guides us in the right path and to make better decisions.

My mom has participated in three tours of duty in the last five years. Two were in support of, Operation Iraqi Freedom and one was for Operation Enduring Freedom. She is a dedicated Soldier, mother, mentor, and hero. The only part of her work she apologizes for is that it sometimes takes her away from her family. She has taught me and my twin sister the spirit of humbleness, the significance of truth, peace, love, and happiness. My mother is tough. She makes us work hard in school. She makes us read books and study over summer breaks. She depends on us to make good grades in school. My sister has a 3.6 GPA and will graduate with honors. My mom doesn't get upset because my GPA is not as high as my sister, but she still expects me to do my best.

Because the military has provided a safe, stable, and equitable live for our family, my mother gives freely of her time and support to other young single mothers seeking to achieve victory over their circumstances. She is always looking volunteer projects for our family to participate in as a whole. We have worked with Habitat for Humanity, the Fort Bragg Teen Leadership and Mentorship Program and the Fayetteville Arts Council.

My mother has opened our eyes to a world of opportunities. She has taught us to be honest, fair-minded, straight forward, and imaginative; we learn this best from her words and actions. I hope when you read my essay about my military hero, you recognize and discover that my hero is not the typical style of hero. She is a classical representation of Maya Angelou's poem "Phenomenal woman."

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