



From: HOPE FOR THE WARRIORS™

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Chaplain runs marathon the day before deploying with 2nd CEB

Deployment schedule change disrupts training but not commitment to cause

Harper's Ferry, WV, October 3, 2009—How do you spend the day before you deploy to Afghanistan? If you're LT David Duprey, a Navy Chaplain with the Second Combat Engineer Battalion, you run a marathon. On Saturday, October 3, Duprey, 48, fulfilled his promise to Team Hope For The Warriors™, finishing the Freedom's Run marathon in Harper's Ferry, WV in a respectable 4:48:26. Just 24 hours after finishing, he shipped out with the Second Combat Engineer Battalion from Camp Lejeune, NC.

Running in the Freedom's Run wasn't part of Duprey's original plan. He signed up for the 2009 Marine Corps Marathon with the intention of helping the heroes he works with as a Navy Chaplain. He joined Team Hope For The Warriors™ and committed to raise funds for the national non-profit organization. Then, he planned his training schedule. When the Marine Corps stepped in with a change in deployments however, Duprey found out his marathon plan wouldn't work.

At the time, Duprey was already Hope For The Warriors'™ 3rd top fundraiser for the team's Marine Corps Marathon campaign. With more than \$3,400 raised to date, Duprey was determined to fulfill his promise to the team and his donors.

He quickly switched gears, signed up for Freedom's Run and cut his training plan by a month. "Father Dave's commitment to the military doesn't end with his workday. I've seen it firsthand; he's an inspiration to our whole team," says Team Captain Toni Aurilio who stepped up to run Freedom's Run as well. Duprey, a former Episcopalian pastor, has served in the Navy for just two years having joined the Chaplain Corps with an age waiver.

"It is an honor to run for this team," says Duprey. "Hope for the Warriors™ provides an invaluable support to the families of our service members who are wounded or killed in action. The cost of our freedom is evident in each of these families. To participate in this marathon and raise this awareness is our great privilege."

Billed as an event for health *and* heritage, The Freedom's Run Marathon ran through four National Parks: Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, Antietam National Battlefield, and the Potomac Heritage Trail.

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Hope For The Warriors™ is a national, non-profit group actively seeking to ensure that the sacrifices of wounded and fallen warriors and their families are never forgotten nor their needs unmet, particularly with regard to the short and long-term care of the severely injured. For more information, visit their website at www.hopeforthewarriors.org.

