



National Guard couple weds via Internet

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*By William Jackson,
GCN Staff*

Shadow Evans and Richard Everton, both sergeants in the Massachusetts National Guard, were married earlier this month by videoconference—the bride in Iraq and the groom in Colorado.

Staff Sgt. Evans said her vows at Camp Cooke, north of Baghdad. She arrived for the ceremony by armored Humvee. Sgt. Everton was at the Doubletree Hotel in Durango, Colo., where Judge Martha Minot officiated. The bride had no wedding dress but got permission from her commanding officer to wear civilian jeans and a white shirt.



Couple getting married via the internet

Image: Courtesy of Freedom Calls Foundation

The video link was courtesy of the Freedom Calls Foundation of Brooklyn Heights, N.Y., which provides free Internet communications for U.S. troops in Iraq to keep in touch with family at home.

The event is believed to be the Army's first Internet wedding between soldiers.

Evans and Everton had originally meant to marry next summer, after Evans' tour in Iraq was completed. They moved up the date when word came that Everton also was being mobilized. Colorado is one of a handful of states that permit proxy weddings for nonresidents.