

Local soldier connects with family through video conference

By Bridgett Morales Kilgore

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MOORESVILLE

Kendol Enzinger of Mooresville got to see her husband, Army Medic Bryan Enzinger, Thursday for the first time since December. Although not in person, she was thrilled nevertheless.

The recently wed couple and family members were brought together by Freedom Calls, an organization that connects soldiers with their families using video conferencing technology that assists physicians in diagnosing and treating patients at remote sites. Methodist Hospital Video Architect David Boyer established a relationship with Freedom Calls Foundation after finding out about the organization.



Although in person would have been her first choice, Kendol Enzinger was thrilled to be able to see her husband, Army Medic Bryan Enzinger, in a video conference Thursday. Photo by Bridgett Morales Kilgore.

"You got a haircut," was the first thing Kendol said to her husband at the video conference set up at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis.

The first minute of connection time was filled with greetings from both Kendol's and Bryan's family to the soldier in Iraq.

"Where'd you buy that new shirt," Bryan asked.

Although the couple share daily e-mails and periodic phone calls, Kendol said she was excited to see Bryan.

When Bryan was asked if it was difficult to speak with a two-second delay, he responded very positively.

"It is just great to see everyone," Bryan said.

Kendol said Bryan learned about Freedom Calls and signed up for it. Kendol said she then received a call about scheduling the video conference.

The Enzinger's grew up in Mooresville down the street from each other. Brian is a 1994 graduate of Mooresville High School. Kendol graduated in 2003. The couple will celebrate their first anniversary June 18.

While Brian has been stationed with the Army 4th Infantry in Fort Hood, Texas, for more than a year and a half, Kendol continued to live in Mooresville. In December, Kendol traveled to Texas to visit before her husband's unit was deployed.

At the video conference, when asked when he will be returning, Bryan shrugged at the question.

"We are due to come back in December, but it is unknown right now," Bryan said. "The IA, the Iraqi Army...we are training them to take over. They were supposed to take over in May. No one knows exactly what will happen. We won't know until we get to that point."