

Wilson Borough soldier dad 'helps' deliver wife's baby from 6,000 miles away

by Tony Nauroth

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Express-Times photo - BRUCE WINTER Katrina Badua holds her new daughter, Rayana Mae as her son, Riley, 3, watches his baby sister. Sergeant Robert Badua, of Wilson, who is serving in Iraq, watched the birth as part of the Freedom Calls Foundation and St. Luke's Hospital & Health Network.

A soldier assigned to the National Guard Armory in Wilson Borough was brought in from a 48-hour patrol Wednesday to watch the birth of his second child via video from 9,000 miles away in Iraq where he's stationed with B Co., 104th Stryker Brigade.

Sgt. Robert Badua's first words as 7-pound, 7-ounce Rayana Mae Badua arrived at [St. Luke's Hospital](#) in Allentown were, "She's beautiful! She's beautiful!" At least those are the first words Katrina Badua remembers hearing.

Dr. William Rieder, who delivered the baby, said it was an unusual one for him. "I had to get out of the way of the camera. When she was born, I told Robert to hold his hands out."

The satellite link was arranged by the [Freedom Calls Foundation](#), which connects soldiers with their family members back home