



“Nine Tenths of Education is Encouragement”

- Anatole France (French poet)



May 10, 2010

WISH #26

Killeen, TX



What is the value of an education? The answer is different for everyone, but most people would agree that you really can't put a price on the experience of learning, and all the added benefits that come along with education.

Katie Brown is the wife of Specialist Michael Brown, of the United States Army. As a full time student, wife, and mother, Katie balances quite a lot. The family gets by on Michael's salary, but rising childcare and education costs have recently burdened the family.

Katie has been pursuing a degree in Network Administration for computers and had planned to continue classes through summer.

With the increased childcare costs, she and her husband were concerned that they couldn't also afford her schooling. She found it difficult to find a job that could work around her class hours, so she was finding it difficult to cover book fees and childcare for their 14-month old daughter and 6-yr old son when she's at school and their father is at work.

Katie contacted *Wish For Our Heroes*, and indicated that her tuition would be covered by MyCAA (Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts) program, but she and Michael could not afford both childcare and book fees for Katie's summer classes.

To ease some of their financial load, we posted a wish for Katie on our website, requesting donations to purchase textbooks for Katie's summer classes. In a matter of weeks, \$200 was raised on our website, and we continued to leave Katie's wish up to see if more donations would come in.

On May 6, Katie contacted us and indicated that she was not going to pursue her education because the money just was not there. As it turned out, Katie found out that she needed to purchase her books by May 9th for her summer classes, and she knew that only \$200 had been raised on the website. We immediately contacted Katie and asked if she still wanted to pursue her education, and she quickly responded with, "YES!!".

Wish For Our Heroes worked with Central Texas College Bookstore to open a line of credit for Katie's books, and she was able to purchase the textbooks she needed for summer classes.

Our hats are off to Katie for balancing so many roles, and for pursuing an education that will open many doors for her in the future. We wish Katie, Michael and their two children all the best!

