



Students in Mr. Goshert's English class wrote letters to servicemen in the Gulf. Here, they pose beside the flagpole patriotically.



Lorri, David, and Christy Ragsdale before he left for Saudi Arabia.

The feelings that surrounded our family while David was in the Persian Gulf were a mixture of madness and fear; we feared the protection that David may lack, and madness because of the fact that it was our brother and son who was over there.

To date, David had been in the Navy for nearly three years, two months of those he served on the U.S.S. McKee in the Persian Gulf.

When he calls, he talks of his feelings. He's very homesick and would love to be home with his family. He also talks about the surroundings.

We miss him and wish he were home so our family could be one again.

— Lorri Ragsdale on brother,
David, in Operation Desert Storm

The Year In Review

- 8-8-90 President George Bush sends the first of 541,000 U.S. troops to Saudi Arabia for "Operation Desert Shield."
- 8-20 The North Putnam school year begins with Iraq occupying Kuwait, the U.S. in a recession, students watching Channel One in homeroom, and most of the Midwest bracing for a major earthquake predicted for December.
- 8-22 Stores have big runs on camouflaged shirts, atlases, U.S. flags, and anything with an "Operation Desert Shield" logo.
- 9-14 Gas prices rise about 20% nationally in response to the Gulf crisis. (20¢-30¢ increase)
- 10-3 East and West Germany unite to become one nation.
- 10-15 Soviet Union President Mikhail S. Gorbachev wins the Nobel Peace Prize for his role in ending the Cold War between East and West.
- 10-22 Recycling has become a priority for many Americans. McDonald's announces it will switch from polystyrene containers to recyclable paper for its food products.
- 10-27 The band competes at the Hoosier dome in the State Marching Finals. The Marching Cougars place third.
- 11-9 North Putnam has record football season, winning the regional and advancing to the semi-state for the first time in school history.
- 11-11 The 1990 Census shows there are 248,000,000 people living in the United States.
- 11-27 United Nations sets January 15 as the deadline for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait or face military action.
- 12-2 Several Indiana schools cancel classes for fear of a major earthquake in the New Madrid Fault Zone. North Putnam has school, but practices earthquake drills. No earthquakes occur.
- 12-17, 12-20 Two minor earthquakes shake central Indiana. The tremors, however, are not part of the New Madrid Fault Zone.
- 1-12-91 Congress approves the use of force against Iraq in "Operation Desert Storm."
- 1-16 U.S. begins air assaults on Hussein's military command structures in Iraq and Kuwait. At North Putnam, classes are interrupted to watch coverage of military press briefings.
- 1-27 New York Giants defeat Buffalo Bills in Super Bowl XXV.
- 2-3 The cost of sending a letter rises from 25¢ to 29¢.
- 2-24 U.S. launches ground war against Iraq.
- 2-27 Kuwait is liberated. Iraq agrees to cease fire conditions. Casualty figures for the war are: Iraq 100,000 (app.), U.S. 124.
- 4-18 Stock market closes over 3000 mark for the first time in history.
- 4-23 North Putnam Winter Guard wins state at Southport High School.
- 5-3 "Dallas" airs on TV for the last time after a run of 13 years.
- 5-25 Graduation