## An Iraq War Veteran's Experience...

"I served in the U.S. Armed Forces for several years, seeing combat in Iraq and therefore I can speak with a great deal of authority about what happens. I think students, as well as teachers, should invite the **We Are Not Your Soldiers** (WANYS) tour into their schools to find out what's really going on. We pride ourselves on educating our youth. **We Are Not Your Soldiers** IS about education and we provide the "other side" about military service -- truthful information so today's youth can make informed decisions.

Recruiters are paid to entice and lie to our youth. They don't say that if you sign up for four years in the military that, in all actuality, you will live with the emotional scars of service for 40. We Are Not Your Soldiers speakers do not get paid to speak. What we gain is something greater -- the possibility that by speaking about what true military service requires, that hopefully we help a young person not to fall into the same physical and psychological traps that we did.

I encourage all teachers, faculty members, students, as well as parents, to invite **WANYS** to your schools!"

-- Ethan McCord enlisted in the US Navy in response to 9/11. Wanting to be closer to the action, he moved to the Army, and in 2007 was an Army specialist, part of Bravo Company, 2-16 Infantry in the middle of the ground war in Baghdad, Iraq.