

# 2015 ARMY WARRIOR GAMES ATHLETE

## NAME

Christopher Parks

## RANK

1st Lieutenant

## STATUS

Active

## MOS

65D (Physician Assistant)

## HOMETOWN

Lakeside, California

## CURRENT LOCATION

Fort Hood, Texas

## INJURY OR ILLNESS

Necrotizing Fasciitis; amputee

## EVENT(S)

Swimming, Field, Cycling, Sitting Volleyball, Wheelchair Basketball



1st Lt. Christopher Parks was born in Bethesda, Maryland, but grew up in Lakeside, California. All through his life he knew he wanted to be in the Army, so he enlisted as a 68W (Health Care Specialist) in 1991. After successfully serving for many years as a medical non-commissioned officer he decided to become a 65D (Physician Assistant) and graduated from the Interservice Physician

Assistant Program in 2011. After graduation, he was assigned to the 3d Cavalry Regiment at Fort Hood, Texas. In early March of 2014, his right leg was amputated due to a flesh eating bacterial infection known as "Necrotizing Fasciitis." 1st Lt. Parks was in a coma for six weeks and awoke without his right leg. Since the amputation, he has learned to overcome obstacles and has realized how amazing and important life truly is.

1st Lt. Parks is hoping to be an example for his fellow Americans and show them they can overcome obstacles no matter how difficult they may seem. "I feel blessed to have the ability to participate in the military adaptive sports program. Through these programs, I have been able to get back into the sports that I enjoyed and more importantly meet some amazing people along the way," said Parks. He feels truly honored to represent Team Army at this year's Department of Defense Warrior Games.



"My chain of command has been a great form of support for my participation but it has been my family that has pushed me beyond what I thought I could achieve."

