

A mechanic for the airborne reserves, Eugene G., 24, was wounded on August 6, 2006 when a rocket exploded near Kfar-Giladi, a kibbutz where Israeli reserves were gathering before entering Lebanon. Twelve people were killed instantly, while many others were wounded.

Eugene, who made an aliyah with his parents six years ago, has served a full term as a draft soldier and then as a reservist. Before the war Eugene was a prep student at Haifa Technion University where following his father's footsteps he was planning to get a degree in mechanical engineering.

As a result of the explosion, over a thousand of shrapnel pieces penetrated Eugene's body. The worst wound was in the right leg: disrupted circulation due to the damaged major artery resulted in a loss of large percentage of muscle tissue. Also, both eardrums were ruptured, most likely resulting in the permanent hearing loss. It is not clear how many more surgeries Eugene will have to undergo.

Upon moving to Israel, Eugene's parents were not able to find professional jobs and worked odd jobs to support the family. After Eugene was wounded, his parents could not work for two months while they remained by their son's bedside. The family has been relying on donations in order to survive.

... До войны я учился на подготовительном курсе в техническом университете Хайфы. В начале августа я был призван в батальон резервистов воздушного десанта. В одном из самых тяжелых столкновений нашей армии с террористической группировкой Хизбала, в котором погибли 12 моих сослуживцев, от ракеты Катюша был ранен я. У меня было тяжелое ранение, в течение первых нескольких дней никто из врачей не мог с уверенностью сказать что я останусь в живых. На данный момент мне уже сделали 8 операций и это еще не все. Две недели назад меня наконец-то выписали из больницы, я пролежал там почти 4 месяца. Сейчас я чувствую себя лучше, уже начал ходить с костылями.

Когда выздоровлю, хочу продолжать учиться и, не смотря на то, что впереди долгий и тяжелый путь, я не унываю!

*Большое вам спасибо за поддержку!!!
7 декабря 2006 г.*

Before the war I was taking prep courses at Technion University. In the beginning of August I was drafted to the reservist airborne battalion. I was wounded in one of the heaviest battles with Hezbollah, in which 12 soldiers were killed. My wounds were very severe, during the first few days doctors could not tell with certainty whether I would live. So far, I

have undergone eight surgeries and will need more. Two weeks ago I was finally discharged from the hospital where I spent four months. I am feeling better now and started to walk with crutches. When I get better I am planning to continue my studies, and though there is a long rehabilitation process ahead, I am not losing hope.

Thank you very much for your support!

Евгений Г.

December 7, 2006
