

Copyright 2004 Chicago Tribune Company  
Chicago Tribune

December 1, 2004 Wednesday  
Chicago Final Edition

**SECTION:** METRO ; ZONE C; Pg. 1

**LENGTH:** 715 words

**HEADLINE:** Mayor's son reporting for duty;  
Patrick Daley an Army enlistee

**BYLINE:** By Gary Washburn and Dan Mihalopoulos, Tribune staff reporters. Tribune staff reporter David Mendell contributed to this report.

**BODY:**

Just months after receiving a graduate business degree from the University of Chicago, Mayor Richard Daley's son, Patrick, is joining the U.S. Army with the full support of his father--and despite his mother's heavy heart.

The younger Daley, a onetime West Point cadet who left after his first year, signed enlistment papers several months ago and planned to ship out in October but was dissuaded from reporting immediately, according to a family friend, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"I would bet [his mother, Maggie Daley] asked that he please stay until Christmas," said the friend, who reported that the mayor's wife remains upset about her son's decision to join the military at a time when violence rages in Iraq and U.S. troops also face danger daily in Afghanistan.

But the mayor said Tuesday he never tried to talk his son out of taking the course that, at age 29, he has selected for himself.

"If he wants to do it, he is going to do it," Daley said. "I am very proud of his decision, and I stand by his decision. ... Duty, honor and country. That is what he wants to do."

Daley choked up when asked about his wife's reaction, given her continuing battle against cancer and the heartbreak of losing another son, Kevin, who was 33 months old when he died of complications of spina bifida in 1981.

"It's a challenging time," the mayor replied, his eyes welling up with tears.

The enlistment marks the latest in a variety of educational and career turns for Patrick Daley, who is listed on the U. of C. business school's alumni Web site as managing partner of Companion Capital.

The downtown Chicago address listed for Companion Capital is the same as that for Cardinal Growth, a private investment company that owns a high-tech affiliate that in August won a lucrative city contract over four other bidders to provide wireless Internet access at O'Hare International and Midway Airports.

Patrick Daley attended St. Ignatius College Prep before transferring to Mt. Carmel High School, where he got his diploma.

Along the way, he suffered his father's wrath when he hosted an unauthorized party in 1992 at the family's Michigan summer home where a fight broke out and a youth was injured after being hit with a bat.

As a college student, young Daley bounced from school to school, ultimately receiving his undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Since then, he has held a succession of jobs, including one with Matlock Capital, a firm headed by multimillionaire investor and former U.S. Senate candidate Blair Hull.

Cardinal Growth founders Joe McInerney and Robert Bobb did not return phone calls seeking comment Tuesday.

Joe Beatty, the CEO of **Concourse Communications**, the Cardinal firm that won the Internet contract at the airports, said he did not know whether Patrick Daley currently worked for Cardinal Growth. But Beatty said the younger Daley was an intern for Cardinal Growth while he was working toward his graduate business degree.

Reached by telephone Tuesday, Patrick Daley declined to comment on his career move.

"I'm not going to say anything," he said, referring questions to mayoral press secretary Jacquelyn Heard.

Heard said no family members other than the mayor would have any comment because Maggie Daley is distraught.

Earlier this year, Patrick Daley received an MBA from the U. of C. That achievement made all the more unusual his decision to enter the Army as a private. Patrick Daley, who would have been commissioned as an Army officer had he stayed at West Point, has chosen the life of an enlisted man.

"That is my son, Patrick," the mayor said. "He wants to start where he believes it is important. He has gone to graduate school, the University of Chicago, with honors, and he would rather do that than anything else. From there, he can make his decision in the military, what he wants to do."

Mayor Daley said his father, the late Mayor Richard J. Daley, never tried to steer his career path.

"I don't know why people think my father sat there and said, 'You go into politics.' He said, 'Make your own decision.'

"That is the only way you deal with your sons and daughters. Let them make their own decisions. Too many parents make decisions for their children and, unfortunately, they are never happy for the rest of their lives."