

= Aiden Ford =

First Lieutenant Aiden Ford , USMC is a fictional character in the Canadian @-@ American Sci @-@ Fi Channel television series Stargate Atlantis , a military science fiction show about a combined civilian and military team exploring another galaxy via a network of alien transportation devices . Played by Rainbow Sun Francks , Aiden Ford is introduced as a main character in the season one premiere " Rising " , holding the military rank of first lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps .

Ford is a regular in season one . He appears in a recurring role season two and appears once in a dream sequence in the season five premiere episode Search and Rescue . He later reappears in the official continuation novel Stargate Atlantis Legacy : The Third Path in which his ultimate fate is revealed .

= = Television = =

Lieutenant Aiden Ford is introduced in the series premiere , " Rising " , where he is stationed at the Antarctica outpost . Ford served in the Stargate Command ( SGC ) before and is twenty @-@ five years old at the beginning of the first season . Ford served as John Sheppard 's second @-@ in @-@ command after the events of " Rising " until a Wraith feeds upon Ford during a Wraith attack on Atlantis in season 2 's " The Siege , Part 3 " . An exploding grenade blows them off a building into the ocean , and Ford 's unconscious body and the still attached Wraith are recovered over an hour later . Ford survives after having an overdose of Wraith enzyme and later undergoes mental and physical changes . Ford develops a solid black left eye and becomes more aggressive and paranoid , fleeing Atlantis with a stolen Puddle Jumper .

The Atlantis team encounters him again in " Runner " where they learn that Ford began killing Wraiths throughout the Pegasus galaxy to harvest their enzyme that gave him abnormal strength . Ford is presumed dead when he deliberately jumps into the culling beam of a Wraith dart , but the Atlantis team encounters him again in the mid @-@ season 2 @-@ parter " The Lost Boys " / " The Hive " . The Wraith @-@ enzyme allowed Ford to awake immediately after rematerializing on board a Wraith @-@ hive ship , from where he escaped only to build up a small strike force of young men following his suit by informing them about the benefits of the Wraith @-@ enzyme . Ford asks the Atlantis team for help in destroying an entire Wraith Hive @-@ ship , but the mission fails and forces Sheppard to leave Ford behind on an about @-@ to @-@ explode hive ship . Ford is only seen again in Sheppard 's dream in the season 5 episode " Search and Rescue " .

= = Literature = =

Ford reappears in the official novel continuation Stargate Atlantis Legacy : The Third Path . To their surprise , the team finds Ford alive and with a group of nomadic humans known as the Travelers . He explains to Sheppard he managed to escape the hive ship before it was destroyed , but crashed on the planet the battle took place over . With the help of the Travelers , he recovered from his addiction but it took so long that he could no longer find Atlantis afterwards . Ford began leading a guerilla campaign against the Wraith , aided by the Travelers . He also now has a wife and son and regrets his previous actions under the Wraith enzyme . At the end of the novel , Ford is safely returned to Earth with his wife and son and reunites with his cousin and grandparents .

= = Conceptual history = =

After the end of season 1 , the series producers , and the actor himself , felt that Ford had not worked as intended and was highly underused as a result . Unwilling to write him out , the writers came up with an idea to make the character more important , but that downgraded him to a recurring character . Producer Joseph Mallozzi said in 2009 that " We can assume [ Ford ] went down [ ... ] with the ship " in " The Hive " . Rainbow Sun Francks was disappointed about the evolution of his

character , saying Ford did not evolve a backstory which the other characters did . Although Francks called the situation " tough " , he reacted positively towards the development of character during the second season .

After announcing that Ronon Dex would become a main character in the Atlantis series , they followed up with another announcement saying that they had reduced Ford to a recurring character in the series . Many fans were disappointed with this new development because many felt he didn 't have time to " prove " himself in the new series and that the character was never fully developed compared to the other characters in the show . Many campaigns to save the character were created after the announcement , the most notable being the F.O.R.D. campaign . Francks said that the change was not a " blow " , since he and Brad Wright had already discussed the change . He was also more positive in the change of story arc for the character , saying he was a " big part " of the second season compared to season one where they hadn 't had enough episodes to broaden the character . When asked about reducing Francks ' role in Atlantis , Wright replied " The change in status means that Francks will not appear in every episode , and will not be listed in the show 's opening credits . "

= = Reception = =

Fans of the character set up campaigns to get Ford back as a main character later in season two or season three . They sent various petitions to the producers , cast and crew of Stargate Atlantis to change their minds . Fans of the character even put up a website under the name F.O.R.D. , which in turn was also the name for one of the campaigns fighting for the revival of the character .