

NON PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
The American Legion



I need to hear from you IMMEDIATELY...

Enclosed is a FIRST-CLASS stamp to help our wounded heroes!

John Q. Sample
123 Main St.
Building 1
Anytown, US 12345-6789





The American Legion
PO Box 21016
Tulsa, OK 74121-1016



Salute Our Heroes Reply

XXXXXXXXXX-XXXXX-XX



For God and Country

YES, I want to help our wounded heroes like Tom!

Enclosed is my gift to help. XX XX XX

if at all possible

Other _____

Please make check payable to:
The American Legion

I'd like to pay by credit card. *(see reverse)*

Use enclosed envelope or mail to:
**American Legion National Headquarters
Donation Processing Center
PO Box 21016
Tulsa, OK 74121-1016**

John Q. Sample
123 Main St.
Building 1
Anytown, US 12345-6789



To put your gift to work even faster, please visit donatenow.legion.org.

I would like to receive periodic e-mail updates from The American Legion.

My e-mail address is: _____

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE?

Please send me information on supporting our veterans with a bequest to The American Legion in my will.

I have already included The American Legion in my will.

I have included a check.

Please make check payable to: The American Legion.

Please charge my credit card.



Card Number: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Signature: _____ Expiration Date: _____



The American Legion

For God and Country

National Headquarters • PO Box 361656 • Indianapolis, IN 46236

Dear Patriot,

Brandy Shepard describes horrible wounds her husband, Sergeant Tom Shepard, endured after an IED blast ripped through his body.

"His left leg was amputated above the knee. It is closed up & healing well. His arms had a lot of shrapnel wounds. Those wounds are now closed up & all bandages have been removed from arms. He has many stitches in various places on his arms, but they are healing well. Two of Tom's fingertips were amputated. His forefinger (trigger finger) and ring finger, both on right hand. The flash burns on his face & arms are also healing well."



Sgt. Tom Shepard

Tom's right leg is the major wound now. A lot of the muscle from mid-calf up is gone. Miraculously, as doctors say, all tendons, ligaments, bone and nerves are still intact! For now he continues to go to surgery every 2-3 days for I&D (irrigation & debridement) of the wound.

Tom survived injuries that could easily have killed him. He required immediate surgery in Khandahar, then was flown to Germany for more care. Finally he was transferred to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC, where he spent time in the ICU.

America's wounded warriors need your help!

Throughout the long wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, thousands of men and women like Tom returned home with serious, life-changing injuries. Most of the most critically wounded received care at Walter Reed Army Medical Center (now Walter Reed National Military Medical Center — in Bethesda).

Many of our wounded warriors are just kids ... young men and women who are just starting out in the world. Yet their determination — not only to heal, but to return to combat or to an active life in their communities — comes from an iron will that goes far beyond their years.

For most, their days are filled with rigorous physical, psychological, and occupational therapy. They live at Walter Reed, and their main mission is to return to their highest possible level of activity. But those days are long, especially for a 22-year-old whose parents or spouse cannot stay on base with them. Some of them require a year of rehabilitation — OR MORE.

YOU can help bring some much-needed relief to these wounded soldiers.

The American Legion has a presence at Walter Reed and other military hospitals around the country. We are dedicated to helping our wounded soldiers and their families who need assistance. Many struggle to navigate the often overwhelming medical care system ... others need help coordinating visits from their families ... others need items — simple comforts of home that would help make their long stay in the hospital more tolerable.

In a past update, a Legion Walter Reed staff member wrote, "Many of our recuperating soldiers rarely get off the base. Some remain here for years before they are ready to leave. They are looking to The American Legion to help them with more than just healthcare related issues."

One example of this was a young man our team met on a visit to Walter Reed. He knew they were with The American Legion and asked if they could help his friend organize a motorcycle ride in his hometown of Knoxville, TN. The ride was to raise funds for his family to travel to WRNMMC for a visit during his recovery.

over, please

Here sat a young man who had lost both legs in service to his country, and he was apologizing for requesting our help. He made it quite clear that he wasn't asking for our assistance because HE will benefit... but that he wanted to support his friend and wanted to help his family.

These young servicemen and women are turning to The American Legion for help, and we need your help to ensure they get it. Many of our wounded combat veterans have a greater percentage of disability than has been determined by a panel — which directly affects the amount of benefits and retirement they receive from the military. In those cases, The American Legion steps in and helps the soldier appeal or argue for additional medical evaluations.

At this time, the greatest need for our service is at Walter Reed, but there are many other medical centers around the country that are also evaluating soldiers' injuries, and there are many other soldiers in need of our aid.

YOU CAN HELP MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR WOUNDED HEROES.

The American Legion is dedicated to assisting our hospitalized soldiers at WRNMMC and military hospitals across the country. Through generous donations from caring Americans like you, we have initiated various programs to help make the road to recovery more bearable for our wounded heroes. Operation Comfort Warriors is one such program.

When you send a gift today using the enclosed first-class stamp, you can help provide comfort items to wounded heroes. Items like loose-fitting sweat suits that cover a soldier's healing body without adding pressure to the burns he suffered during an RPG attack in Ramadi ... an iPod to help drown out the tinnitus that has plagued the medic ever since she drove too close to a roadside bomb in Afghanistan ... a gripping novel that provides a welcome distraction from PTSD.

Operation Comfort Warriors is just one example of the many ways we are helping our troops and veterans. By following three easy steps, YOU can help us make a difference in the lives of our veterans.

STEP #1: Fill out the "Salute Our Heroes" reply form and send it back to me with your BEST GIFT. The amount of your gift isn't nearly as important as your resolve to stand with The American Legion and support the vital services we provide our U.S. troops and our veterans, including programs like Operation Comfort Warriors.

STEP #2: Affix the enclosed first-class stamp to the reply envelope provided.

STEP #3: Return the "Salute Our Heroes" reply form in the enclosed envelope — with your best gift!

Please send your gift today, which will help send the message to our active duty military, our wounded warriors, and our veterans that Americans — proud Americans LIKE YOU — are grateful for the sacrifices they made and that we have not forgotten them.

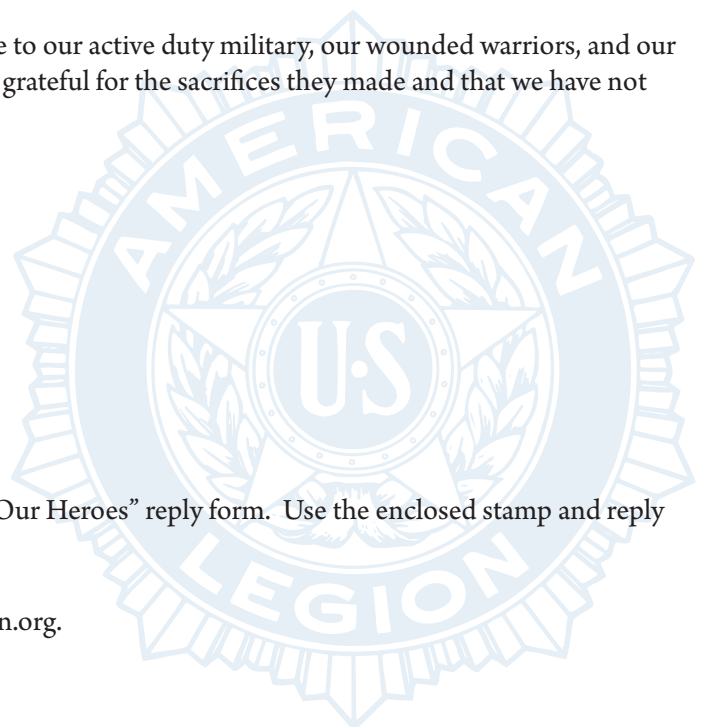
With heartfelt gratitude, I look forward to your response.



Verna L. Jones
Executive Director
The American Legion

P.S. Please take a few minutes to complete the enclosed "Salute Our Heroes" reply form. Use the enclosed stamp and reply envelope to return it to me as soon as possible.

To put your gift to work even faster, please visit donatenow.legion.org.





STAMP
HERE

*Thank you!
Please place the enclosed stamp here.*



AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
DONATION PROCESSING CENTER
PO BOX 21016
TULSA OK 74121-1016

