



★ You are invited to a ★ GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

Honoring the service and sacrifice of **Sgt. Joseph Bartel, USMC (Ret)**

Monday, August 16, 2021 at 11:00 AM
700 Winds Way | Aberdeen, North Carolina



Sergeant Joe Bartel grew up in Alaska, the oldest of 7. He loved hunting and fishing and competed in track. In 2000, Sergeant Bartel joined the Marines and in 2003 deployed with the Marines for 9 months during the initial invasion of Iraq. A few years later, he joined the Army and on his 2nd deployment to Iraq as part of the surge, he lost his leg and was forced to medically retire.

Sergeant Bartel was a dismounted team leader in the 3rd ID of the Bradley unit. On the fateful day, Joe and his Bradley unit headed out for a mission in 110 degree heat. He had a strong faith and believed that God was always protecting him. That day, he felt God tell him "Put on your gear...NOW". He immediately told his team to gear up and within seconds of securing the gear in place, the Bradley hit an anti-tank mine and SGT Bartel was thrown against the back door and blacked out instantly. When he woke up in the hospital, he learned he had lost his leg and that he would have died had he not had his helmet secured on his head. He credits God with saving his life and is grateful for the second chance with his family. He is married to Christine and has 4 children.

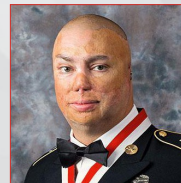
When Johnny Morris, founder of Bass Pro Shops, joined with Helping a Hero to surprise the Bartel family with the news they would receive a home, the Bartels were speechless. This Helping a Hero home has 5 bedrooms and will restore Joe's daily independence by having wider doors, a roll in shower, a roll under sink, an adapted toilet area and other safety features throughout the home. The peaceful setting of Winds Way Farm coupled with the incredible team at Caviness Land Development has encouraged Joe as well. We hope you will join us for the groundbreaking and celebrate the service and sacrifice of SGT Bartel as he continues his road to recovery.



SPECIAL GUESTS



Lee Greenwood
"God Bless the USA"



SSG Shilo Harris, USA (Ret)
2012 Home Recipient



Meredith Iler
Founder, Helping a Hero Home Program



BUILDING PARTNERS



For more information, email patriots@helpingahero.org