



Building Homes for Heroes

Army Corporal Stephen Pearson



Panama City Beach, Florida





Corporal Stephen Pearson

Hero Story

Army Corporal Stephen Pearson enlisted in the military in October of 2004 and served through November 2008, carrying out tours in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

In February of 2007, Corporal Pearson was onboard a CH-47 Chinook helicopter when it crashed in Afghanistan. Eight American servicemen were killed, and 14 others, including Corporal Pearson, were injured. Corporal Pearson was pulled from the wreckage and treated as he waited for the second of two medevac helicopters to arrive. He was stabilized and transported to Germany for immediate care.

Corporal Pearson broke his back in six places, broke most of his ribs, and fractured his right shoulder and clavicle. He also suffered a punctured lung, traumatic brain injury, and suffers with posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

The years of war in Afghanistan and Iraq have brought PTSD among military personnel to the attention of the American people as never before. Blast waves from explosions rattle the brain and can cause traumatic brain injuries which are often linked to PTSD. Most PTSD sufferers repeatedly relive the trauma in their thoughts during the day and in nightmares when they sleep. While the condition varies from person to person, more and more studies have linked PTSD with chronic depression and suicidal ideation.

Among the commendations received by Corporal Pearson are the Iraqi Campaign Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, and the Ranger Tab.

Corporal Pearson, his wife, Jacqueline, and their son will receive a mortgage-free home in Panama City, Florida in April 2016.





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Corporal Stephen Pearson with friend after Army Ranger Pinning Ceremony.





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Corporal Pearson, wife Jacqueline, and son would like to reside in Panama City Beach.

