



MOSS CREEK MARINES OPERATION HELPING HEROES



Helping With K9's For Warriors Service Dog

ADOPTED HERO NO. 36
Sgt. RICHARD WITH CHUCK HEAVY



WARRIOR-CANINE STORIES: RICHARD & CHUCK HEAVY

Richard served in the United States Marine Corps for over 11 years. He was trained as a Motor Transport Mechanic, and when deployed to Kuwait and Iraq, he filled additional roles as a Platoon Sergeant, Mechanic, Convoy Security, Base Security, and Mounted Patrol.

After returning from deployment, Richard didn't feel the same. He was struggling with invisible wounds of war and didn't know how to cope with them. One day, while he was watching TV, he saw Chef Jet Tila on the show "Chopped," who was raising money for K9s For Warriors. When he learned about the program, he was convinced it was also his answer to help with his inner struggles.

"I have seen the amazing things that service dogs have done to help veterans, and wanted to get one to not only help me with my battles, but to also help me be a better husband, father and grandfather. I hope it will help me with my stress, anxiety, and help me reconnect with the community."



Richard came to Camp K9 for the January 2018 class and was paired with rescue dog Chuck Heavy. Since then, he's been managing the debilitating symptoms that led him to K9s For Warriors.

"When training with K9s For Warriors, you become part of a family. You are given a tool - your dog - which helps you reconnect with the world and helps you come out of the prison you have locked yourself in."