

ABOUT OUR RECIPIENT

In appreciation of our military members and their service, we will be giving a repaired vehicle to Sergeant First Class Amanda Kasten, a member of the Minnesota National Guard.

AMANDA'S STORY:

This is the story of Amanda Kasten, a single mom and Sergeant First Class in the Minnesota National Guard (MNNG), who is always giving of herself to others.

Beginning her military service in May 2001, Amanda joined the MNNG while attending school for Criminal Justice. During her search for employment in law enforcement, she found a full-time job with the Guard. She first deployed on her birthday in 2007 to Iraq. Assigned to flight operations for UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopters, she shouldered numerous responsibilities, from route monitoring to tracking hours of flight time, managing refueling operations, and personnel management.

Another role over her 23 years in the National Guard included five years on the 55th Civil Support team, where she was on call 24/7 to investigate CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear) emergencies.

Presently, she serves with the 34th Infantry Division "Red Bulls," who recently deployed to Kuwait and Iraq under Operation Spartan Shield. In her role within the rear-detachment, she extends crucial support to the deployed soldiers and their families.

Despite juggling the demands of military service, parenting a 6-year-old daughter, and maintaining a household, she still finds time to give back to her community. Her volunteer efforts span from church activities to coaching hockey, volunteering at school events like Walk-a-thons and Carnivals, coordinating military Touch-a-truck and helicopter tour events, housing Junior Level hockey players, and fostering animals. She says, "I try to put good back into society, be a good role model for my daughter and other children, and help my community where I can."

Her current vehicle is on its last leg with 315,000 miles on it. This donated vehicle will offer the reliable transportation she needs for work, her daughter's school and activities, military functions, and continued community involvement.



**MILITARY FAMILY
CAR DONATION
TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024**

11 AM Lunch & Social Hour | 12 PM Presentation

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