

ABOUT OUR RECIPIENT

In appreciation of our military members and their sacrifice, we will be giving a repaired vehicle to Jeremiah Peterson, a US Army Veteran and founder of non-profit Veteran Valor Farm.

JEREMIAH'S STORY:

This is the story of an Iraq veteran, Jeremiah Peterson, setting out to help other veterans and founding the non-profit Veteran Valor Farm in Brainerd, MN.

Jeremiah joined the National Guard in 2001 to serve his country and be able to go to college. In 2003, his unit was activated and sent to the most dangerous road in the world, known as Route Irish, in Baghdad, Iraq. When they began patrolling it, nine people would die on average per day. His unit had to dodge RPGs, sniper fire, and IEDs including ones that were put in dead animals to disguise them. Their job was to patrol the *muhallas* (neighborhoods) surrounding Route Irish to show force and to react to enemy contacts and activity. During this tour, Jeremiah and his unit were awarded with the Valorous Unit Award for displaying extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy of the United States.

Upon returning from Iraq, Jeremiah became a training NCO. He even had the opportunity to train and train with foreign soldiers from many countries. He was honorably discharged from the National Guard in 2009, and left having achieved E-5 (Sergeant) rank.

After seeing many of his fellow veterans struggling, Jeremiah wanted to help. He had talked to many vets complaining about the red tape with VA housing services that often ended in more homeless veterans. He says, "I wanted to do something different in an environment outside of the city, away from any triggers for veterans." And the idea for Veteran Valor Farm was born. He started the non-profit with plans to house homeless veterans in a farming environment while providing them a sense of community, job training, and support. Modeling it after already operating farms housing veterans that he toured on the East Coast, he says, "It is important to me to have a place available for any veteran, and specifically the ones I have served with, who are prone to suicide."

After saving and putting his own money into purchasing and setting up the farm, Jeremiah could use the help of a newer and reliable vehicle to transport the veterans to work and AA meetings. Not only will this donated vehicle help him, it will also help the veteran community he so generously serves.



**MILITARY VETERAN
CAR DONATION
TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2023**

11 AM Lunch & Social Hour | 12 PM Presentation

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Minnetonka, MN 55345**