



DOC'S DOGS FOR VETS

P.O. Box 326, Raymond, CA 93653

www.docsdogs4vets.com

EIN: 47-3799984

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Doc's Dogs For Vets is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that was established by the Pleitez Family in honor of their son, Spc. Benjamin Pleitez, who died in Mazar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan in 2012.

Spc. Pleitez was a medic who served in the Army National Guard from 2006 to 2012. He served with the 184th Infantry, 649th Military Police Company and at the time of his deployment was attached to the 1072nd Transportation Company. He served with distinction and was awarded more than a dozen medals, including the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal (w/ Bronze Service Star), and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

Spc. Pleitez had adopted and trained two rescue dogs and continued to train other dogs. His dream was to open a training kennel and he was actively working toward that goal while on deployment. His family is working to make his dream a reality through the training of assistance/service dogs for combat veterans.

There have been well over a million veterans who have sustained nonfatal injuries in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. More soldiers are returning with head injuries and severe injuries to their extremities. In addition to obvious physical injuries, there are the unseen and often undiagnosed injuries such as PTS and Traumatic Brain Injury caused by explosive blasts.

When the numbers of veterans injured in all conflicts, including Vietnam, Desert Storm and other actions, are tallied, they are hard to comprehend.

Experience and studies have shown that service dogs provide significant benefits to wounded veterans. Highly trained dogs can perform tasks that give a veteran the ability to live independently, give the veteran a sense of security resulting in fewer anxiety events and less medication. The suicide rates for veterans who have a service dogs drop significantly but, unfortunately, there are many more requests than available dogs.

Doc's Dogs hopes to fill some of the gap. We are currently fundraising to build a kennel on the 40 acres already purchased by the Pleitez Family. Training is set to begin shortly and requests for dogs are already coming in.

We hope you'll choose to join the project today. There are many ways to support Doc's Dogs and each dollar, each volunteer is important and greatly appreciated. For more information, you may go to the website, www.docsdogs4vets.com.