



## THE FREDDIE J. OWENS MEMORIAL HONOR

to

**RICHARD J. JUNOD**

This honor recalls a man who served God, his country, his family, his brothers and sisters in arms with friendship, heroic honor, and commitment.

He fought with bravery, gallantry, and heroism in the battle of Ia Drang Valley. His response to severe wounds was to continue finding unconventional ways to help and further protect his men.

Freddie's faith-based beacon of hope and light, and love for his God, family, and fellow warriors, meant more to him than any amount of notoriety, recognition, or self-proclamation ever could. His broad, generous smile indicated his love and respect for others.

Even when Agent Orange cancer struck Sgt Owens, he strived to continue his work every day to create lasting, meaningful, and positive change with the people who serve our veterans and the communities they serve.

Knowing his end was close at hand, he pored over details and poured out his heart for the cause of bringing fairness, justice, and honor to women veterans. Even in his name, the word "owe" is something he thought was owed to the women who chose to surrender civilian life for a cause greater than themselves. Just as he felt that Vietnam veterans returning home were treated with anathema, he believed that women veterans fell well below that bar of disrespect.

It was his dream and prayer, his legacy, to see all Americans come to understand the full measure and worth of our veterans, to know of their selfless sacrifices and unbearable tolerances of unrecognition. This award is to be a living monument, a visual testament symbolizing what our veterans have meant to our country... they often became the runway on which this country's greatness was launched. We hope

This award recognition will have an exponential impact, a chain reaction to continuing the work, legacy-inspired work, and love of Sgt Freddie J. Owens.

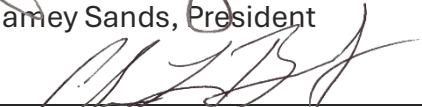


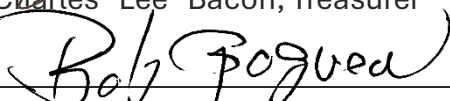
**RICHARD J. JUNOD (USMC) CO-AUTHOR OF THIS AWARD**

**STRATEGIC PARTNER OF VET TO VET TENNESSEE**

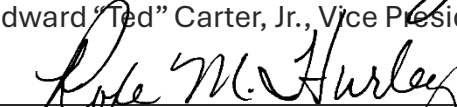
*This 24th day of April 2025*

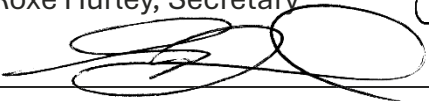
  
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