



Six Ft. Bragg Wounded Soldiers Awarded Free Beds to Help Cope with Injuries

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92% of wounded OEF/OIF veterans report trouble sleeping; Craftmatic® to donate 55 adjustable beds to troops in 2008.

PR9.NET May 19, 2008 - Fayetteville, NC – A 2007 survey of severely wounded troops from the War on Terror found that 92% have trouble sleeping due to nightmares, insomnia and pain. In order to combat this looming problem among the military, Craftmatic® Adjustable Beds has embarked on their CraftmaticCARES Program to donate one adjustable bed, free-of-charge to a severely wounded War on Terror veteran each week in 2008.

This coming week, six Ft. Bragg veterans will be receiving free Craftmatic Adjustable Beds because of their time and service in the military and the severe injuries that they sustained while overseas in combat.

Injured soldiers SSG Maurice Craft U.S. Army (Ret.), SSG Scott Stark U.S. Army (Ret.), SGT Ronny Sweger U.S. Army (Ret.), SGT Rashaun Carpenter U.S. Army (Ret.), CPL Dennis Angel U.S. Army (Ret.), and SPC Michael Martin U.S. Army (Ret.) will be receiving their beds on Monday, May 19th 2008.

Ronny Sweger was deployed three times to Afghanistan, twice to Iraq, and was also sent on multiple other Operation Enduring Freedom hazardous duty deployments. He was injured twice in Afghanistan, once in 2002 and once in 2004, and sustained shrapnel wounds and blast injuries. He now says he has a tough time sleeping through the night.

"My wife and I have been sleeping on an uncomfortable mattress that we have had for about ten years and since I have been home I have problems getting to sleep," said Sweger. "Recently my wife has had to start sleeping in a separate room because I wake her up constantly thrashing."

"I know that this new Craftmatic bed is going to bring us back together and give us a better lifestyle," Sweger said.

On November 8th, 2003, SGT Carpenter was severely injured while the CH47 Aircraft that he was riding in was shot down by a Surface to Air Missile.

Currently, Carpenter owns a regular queen sized bed but cannot sleep on his side or stomach due to pain.

"I toss and turn all night because I can't get comfortable due to my injuries," Carpenter said. "I know that once I get the Craftmatic bed, I will be able to adjust the settings and get comfortable again."

One of the symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is loss of sleep. According to reports from the Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs, there are an estimated 300,000 troops from this war that suffer from PTSD.

"With so many of our severely wounded troops also suffering from PTSD-related insomnia, it is imperative that private companies step in and help out where we can," said Eric Kraftsow, Elevation Bed, LLC owners of the Craftmatic trademark. "Craftmatic beds adjust so that the gaps created between flat beds and your back are eliminated and the spine is fully supported. This will help ease the pain that wounded troops experience, help them get more comfortable, and ease them into a sound sleep. Our company is proud to be assisting in these brave heroes' roads to recovery."

For more information about the CraftmaticCARES Program, please visit <http://www.craftmaticcares.com/>.

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