**FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN**

**FOR**

**BRIAN YAROLEM**

**“Have a vision. It is the ability to see the invisible. If you can see the invisible, you can achieve the impossible.”**

**-Shiv Khera**

(**I’ve revised this introduction to the third person since the fund raiser will be for Todd and the climb. If you prefer, we can revise back to your first person account**).

Most people dream, many people realize their goals.... few people challenge the odds to accomplish the impossible. Todd Love is a rare individual who, in spite of seemingly overwhelming odds, chooses to live his life in the realm of **possibility**.

USMC Corporal Todd Love, a third generation Marine, was already known in the Reconnaissance community as one of its most admired members. In (**give year**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ he was serving in the 1st Battalion’s Pre-Training-Phase (PTP) in preparation for Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) 09/10 deployment. Todd had already established himself throughout the Reconnaissance community as a solid scout and machine gunner. During 09/10 deployment, and on many occasions, Todd Love consistently provided accurate cover fire for the members of his platoon, as they were caught in ambushes. His heroic, selfless actions, while contributing that cover fire, allowed all his team members to maneuver out of enemy fire without injury. He, however, was not as fortunate. During this time Todd was injured by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) while on patrol in Sangin, Afghanistan.

War changes people. Todd lost both his legs and his left arm in that ambush, and while recovery took a long time, he never lost his spirit, his will, or his determination to conquer challenges. Todd has always been known as an active person and he was and is committed to the quality of his life. After many months of rehabilitation and physical therapy, he was able to regain a semblance of mobility, but his will to regain an active, vital, involved existence never left him.

Todd focused on rebuilding his life and achieving the goals he envisioned... surfing, sky diving, wrestling alligators, competing in Spartan races and the Reconnaissance Challenge, playing piano, attending college.... Yes. Todd’s dreams and goals were not and are not hampered by limitations.

Todd Love envisions himself climbing and summiting Mount Rainier. At 14,411 feet, it is the fifth highest peak in the lower forty-eight states. He is in the process of coordinating a team to join him for a five day climb in **August, 2019** (**?.. please fix this... below you say May 27-June 1, 2019**). Here is the tentative schedule:

* Day 1 Pre-Trip Orientation
* Day 2 Mountaineering Day School
* Day 3 Climb to Camp Muir
* Day 4 Acclimatization & Training at Camp Muir Day
* 5 Summit Day

The climb is mentally and physically demanding and Todd will be accompanied by six reconnaissance Marines from his former platoon as well as a mountain guide. The team will support Todd as needed, carrying his equipment, and him, if necessary, to insure he achieves his goal.

In order for Todd Love to complete this challenge, there are expenses and costs that are associated with this event. So, this year, we are raising funds for Todd Love’s challenge. Todd and his team eagerly anticipate this climb and while he is thankful for the support of his fellow Marines who will join him, you are also invited to be a part of this very special adventure.

Todd is the kind of person that does not believe in limits... not of his body... not of his mind... not of his spirit.... we are ALL inspired by his focus and determination. We can ALL learn from his will to survive and his spirit to challenge the impossible. Todd himself has wondered, “What are we capable of? What are the possibilities?” With your generous contributions, this valiant Marine will once again prove his capabilities as well as the strength of the human spirit.

The date of the climb will go from May 27 to June 1, 2019 which is considered to be a great week with potential for good weather and favorable route conditions without excessive crowds. This would translate to everyone spending five days together and returning home on the 6th day, which is June 1st.  Five full days provides the team with some flexibility to allow for bad weather or other possible unforeseen events, and significantly and positively increases the odds to successfully reach the summit.

Regarding budget, we anticipate the trip will require us to raise $10,000, which will cover the bare essentials for the climb, but we will have to cut corners for lodging, food and transportation.

However, with the generosity and good wishes of those of you that choose to support Todd and his team, we are confident that raising $13,200 will cover **all** necessary expenses including:

(**I recalculated and added a bit more.... it didn’t add up to 12,500. Please double check. Also, will you need a driver or will the team members take turns?**).

* Personal and Group Gear for 5 days: $8500
* 12 Passenger van for 6 Days: $1000
* Lodging for 8 people for 2 nights:$1100
* Food Per Diem $50/person/day: $2400
* Gas: $200
* This amount also provides a bit of a cushion for unforeseen emergencies and expenses.

If we are fortunate enough to raise $20,000, we would be able to cover the cost of additional gear and supplies for our Baker practice, provide everyone on the team with additional funds for other important but not as urgently required items at the outfitter (**give a couple of examples**). Any surplus funds will be used to offset the costs for airfare and ground transportation.

Todd Love was, is, and always will be, a Marine’s Marine. He has inspired and looked out for dozens (**hundreds??**) of his fellow soldiers and now it’s time for all of us to close ranks and really support his goal and efforts. On behalf of Todd and his climbing platoon mates, we want to express our gratitude in advance. Thank you and **Semper Fi**!