



NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

Citizens in Support of the Sea Services ~ U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Flag Merchant Marine

HBOT - Testimonial of Linda Cope

The Navy League of the United States, citizens in support of the Sea Services, is part of a coalition that supports Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy for our Brain Injured Warriors and Citizens.

www.navyleague.org

Testimonial of Linda Cope



Linda Cope has been married to Philip Cope for 34 years. Philip and Linda met at Troy University in Troy, AL. They have one daughter, three sons and three grandchildren. They currently reside in Panama City Beach, FL.

Their oldest son, Sgt. Joshua Cope (USA, ret.) lost both of legs above the knees and sustained wounds to both his hands in an IED blast on November 12, 2006. He and his wife, Erica and their three children have stood strong during the trials of Joshua's recovery. It had been challenging to their marriage and family until Dr. Ed Zant administered 80 hyperbaric treatments to treat Joshua's undiagnosed brain injury this past year. The change has been miraculous.

In 2009, Linda and her husband, Philip began a 501c3 Non-Profit organization called Warrior Beach Retreat, Inc. This organization provides an all expense paid 5 day retreat for combat wounded soldiers and their spouses or caregivers from the Iraq/Afghanistan war. Over 300

soldiers and their families have come to Panama City Beach, FL for a time of healing and hope. The focus is not only on the soldiers, but also on the caregivers. The caregivers are so often the forgotten heroes of this war.

No one understands the trauma of war more than the spouses and family members of our soldiers. The mood swings, the anger, nightmares, rejection and confusion is all taken out on family. It is so hard, a silent pain no one else sees or feels, but only those closest to the



Sgt. Joshua Cope (USA Ret.)

soldier. The soldier has changed, they are not the same loved one who went to war. Unspoken prayers, tears and heartaches in a world that does not understand what they face each day. They feel isolated and alone. Some caregivers choose to leave; it is more than they can bear.

Our retreats strengthen these individuals giving them hope and encouragement. They are able to network with each other, 25 couples finally not alone, surrounded by the support of the local community. They continue with friendships made

through emails, Facebook, phone calls and personal visits. So many marriages are on the brink of divorce before coming to these retreats. They choose to carry on once they experience the support from others. But still, almost every soldier that has attended our retreats would benefit from HBOT. The support is excellent but to heal the brain is the ultimate solution. Our nation owes it to them for the sacrifices they have made to keep this nation free.

People who knew my son prior to his hyperbaric treatments could not believe the change they saw in him. He is now sharp, alert and focused. He finally "took ownership" of Warrior Beach Retreat, Inc by greeting and counseling soldiers and serving any way he could. "I was blind, but now I see", it is that miraculous of a change. Ask his wife. They have a new baby who is 1 month old. Their family has a daddy who is whole and can feel again. It is truly a miracle. To learn more about Warrior Beach Retreat please visit www.warriorbeachretreat.org.

