



Give hope.



Through the experience of fly fishing in Montana, Warriors and Quiet Waters is a catalyst for positive change in the lives of post-9/11 combat veterans and their loved ones.

“It was truly a surreal feeling, knowing that so many people had given their time and money to allow for such an opportunity. An opportunity that provided you with gear, instruction, experiences and exposure to take away so much for personal enrichment and development. With fullness in my heart, thank you.”

— Ryan E. Long, *Marine Corps*



The Warriors and Quiet Waters Story

“After four years of Marine Corps aviation combat preparations followed by a war in Vietnam, I found myself in desperate need of serenity and joy. It is no exaggeration to say that fly fishing helped save my life post-war.”

— Col Eric Hastings, Founder, Warriors and Quiet Waters Foundation

From war to water

As a young naval aviator, Col Eric Hastings flew 168 rigorous close air support and strike missions, navigating explosive skies over war-torn ground. Dangerous as those missions were, it was the aftermath that took a greater toll on Eric. For him, somewhere deep inside, the battle raged on, no matter how far he got from the war zone.

Time and time again, fly fishing would snatch Eric from the brink. As the water flowed quietly past, a sense of serenity would settle around him. Age-old mountains in the distance persisted. Maybe he could, too.

During his 34-year career in the Marines, Eric rose in a challenging career: commanding a Reserve Training Detachment, a front-line Attack Squadron, the VMA-

214 “Blacksheep”, a Provisional Air Group, and a Marine Expeditionary Unit. He served as Chief of Staff of the 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, and was assigned Chief of Staff for Marine Forces, Central Command/First Marine Expeditionary Force for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq.

Every busy year, he returned to the rivers and streams, where meditative movement and steadfast scenery brought him back to center. Strengthened by these respites, he ascended the ranks, moved 34 times, retired in 1994, earned a master’s degree in piano performance in New York City, and finally returned to Montana in 1998 to care for aging parents.

//////
“As participants build and grow from their experience... they “return,” slowly but surely, to their families and communities.”

— Col Eric Hastings, Founder, Warriors and Quiet Waters Foundation



A life-changing idea

In August 2006, Eric and his wife, Jean, took a trip to savor the serenity of casting for northern pike and grayling on the Northern Territory waters of Canada. Deeply at peace and open to possibility, they spoke of their two sons on active duty, Eric’s harrowing past, and their desire to meaningfully serve the world.

Again, the quiet waters yielded a gift: an idea. What if the Hastings could somehow grant post-9/11 combat veterans the same profound healing in fly fishing that Eric had discovered?

On the banks of Scott Lake, Warriors and Quiet Waters was born.

Jean donated the first \$10,000 and volunteered as “Mom,” cooking meals for the inaugural attendees. Along with a small army of volunteers, the staff at Balboa Naval Hospital San Diego, Rico Jones and Dr. Volney Steele, Eric and Jean saw their dream embodied at the first Fishing Experience (FX), held in July 2007.

A legacy that ripples

Since then, the Hastings’ idea has proven its value over and over again. Served by big-hearted volunteers in scenic Montana, and occupied with the simple imperative to fish, warriors find their turning point. For some, it’s their first restorative deep sleep. For others, it’s opening up to a fellow warrior or ranch “Mom.”

Whatever each warrior’s advances are, they represent the signs of healing. Warriors find their lives evolving—months and even years after their FX. As participants build and grow from their experience (and continue to fly fish with their new

equipment), they “return,” slowly but surely, to their families and communities.

As for Eric, he still fly fishes, and he serves the organization as a member of the National Advisory Board. In March 2020, Jean and Eric celebrated 56 years of marriage. Their two grown sons, both Marine officers, are now raising their own families.

Without fly fishing, Eric’s family would have looked very different. The unique challenges combat veterans face continually inspire us to bring more quality FXs to more warriors and their loved ones.

Your impact

At the beginning of 2020, WQW served nearly 900 post-9/11 combat veterans and their loved ones from almost every state and every branch of the military. After over a decade of steady, thoughtful growth, WQW is poised to transform the lives of hundreds more warriors in the decades to come. Your planned gift can make it a reality.

What is the Col Eric and Jean Hastings Legacy Circle?



Named for WQW's founder and his wife (our first donor), the Col Eric and Jean Hastings Legacy Circle honors the individuals, families, and corporations who support warriors through planned giving. The generosity of your estate gifts, life income plans, bequests and other planned gifts give us the means to continue our mission of transforming the lives of a new generation of veterans.

Your planned gift serves those who have served us.

WQW consistently earns GuideStar and Charity Navigator's absolute highest ratings, indicating impeccable best practices.



As a Col Eric and Jean Hastings Legacy Circle member, you illuminate paths forward for more and more warriors—for many years to come.

MAKE A PLANNED GIFT TO QUALIFY FOR THE MONTANA ENDOWMENT TAX CREDIT

Even if you don't use the federal charitable deduction for a planned gift, the Montana Endowment Tax Credit can still be used to offset your Montana income tax liability because it is a dollar for dollar credit, not a deduction. A Montana taxpayer may be eligible to receive a tax credit in an amount equal to 40% of the value of the charitable gift made by the taxpayer during the year to any qualified endowment. The maximum credit that may be claimed in one year is \$10,000 per individual or \$20,000 per couple. A Montana business is also eligible.

“Including Warriors and Quiet Waters as a beneficiary in our estate planning was as simple and easy as determining the amount and asking our lawyer to do it.”

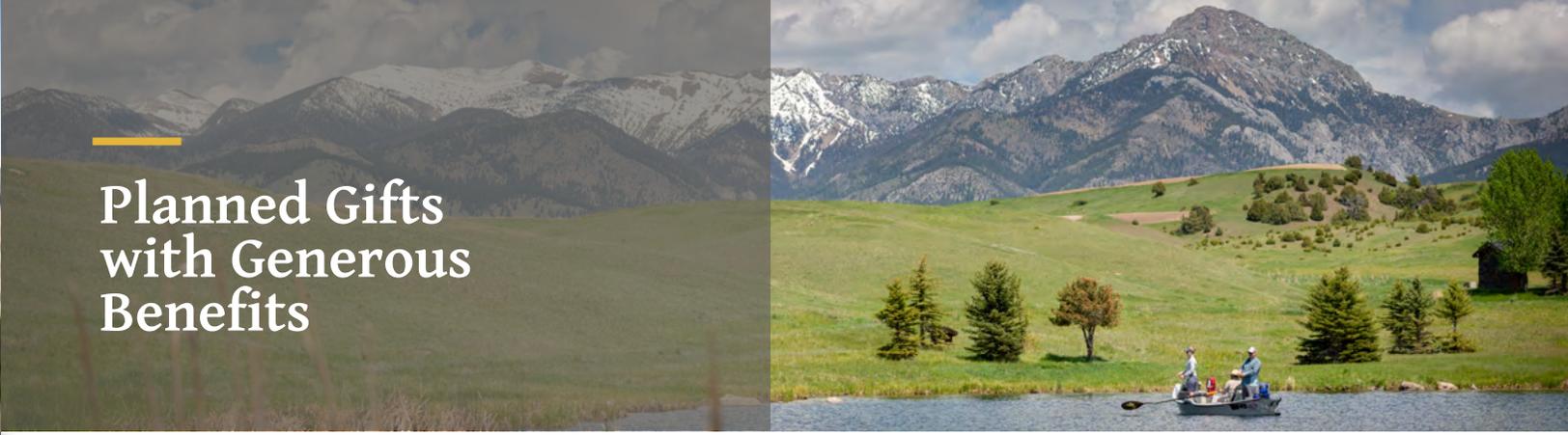
— Lt Col Kit Taylor and Col Ted Campbell,
Legacy Circle Members



“We have strong confidence in the Board and management team to be fiscally responsible in the use of our financial gift. It should be reassuring to potential donors to know that a strong sense of fiduciary responsibility is a cornerstone of WQW.”

— Howard and Sharon Davis,
Legacy Circle Members





Planned Gifts with Generous Benefits

Estate plan gifts

Give through your will, trust, qualified retirement plan, or life insurance. Estate gifts enable you to:

- Provide for the needs of family and loved ones.
- Retain control of your assets during your lifetime.
- Reduce estate taxes upon your passing.
- Reduce both income and estate taxes on retirement plan benefits.
- In some cases, it is as simple as listing WQW as a beneficiary.

Gifts of appreciated assets

One of the most tax-efficient ways to give is through gifts of appreciated assets owned for more than one year such as real estate or publicly traded securities. Benefits of contributing appreciated assets to WQW include:

- A charitable income tax deduction based on the current value of the property.
- Capital gain tax savings.
- An opportunity to use these assets to fund select life income plans.

Life income plans

Charitable Gift Annuities
Establish a charitable gift annuity with cash or appreciated securities and receive fixed lifetime payments, a charitable income tax deduction and estate tax benefits. Residents of Montana may be eligible to receive a Montana Tax Endowment Credit.

- Reduce capital gains tax when you fund your gift annuity with appreciated assets.
- Enjoy partial tax-free payments.

Charitable Remainder Trust
Fund a charitable remainder trust with cash, appreciated securities, or real estate and receive lifetime payments, a charitable tax deduction, and estate benefits.

- WQW can assist in the draft of this document. Funds can be managed at a location of the donor's choice with donor's broker.
- Eliminate capital gain tax up front when you fund the trust with appreciated assets such as securities or real estate.

Life estate plan

Place a "personal residence" (home, cabin, etc.) or farm in a WQW life estate. Retain full use of property but generate large immediate tax savings.

Endowments

Warriors and Quiet Waters Foundation has two endowments. One is for the maintenance and management of Quiet Waters Ranch (QWR). QWR serves as the headquarters for every FX. Located in the middle of 112 peaceful acres near the foothills of the Bridger Mountains, this fully-ADA facility serves as a 'home away from home' for many transitioning post-9/11 combat veterans and some of their family members.

The second endowment is the Henry H. and Marion S. Uihlein Warrior Endowment Fund, which supports the annual operating program expenses of WQW. Offering multiple programs to help meet warriors where they are in their journey is important work.



Help us in growing hope.

The Col Eric and Jean Hastings Legacy Circle protects your finances while leaving a lasting legacy for future warriors. To get started, please reach out to your tax or financial advisor or lawyer, or contact the WQW development office. For a list of Legacy Circle Members, please visit our website.

warriorsandquietwaters.org

warriorsandquietwaters.org

406-585-9793

351 Evergreen Dr., Suite A
Bozeman, MT 59715

WARRIORS
& QUIET WATERS
FOUNDATION