

‘She Is an Absolute Blessing’

Since receiving his service dog, River, Army veteran Elliott Casey has become more active and confident in his community

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Army veteran Elliott Casey served in Iraq by helping clear supply routes of improvised explosive device (IED) hazards and as a Meerkat operator. He also assisted Marines and Army units as a subject matter specialist.

Last year, Casey lost his older brother unexpectedly. The support his family received inspired him to give back to the veteran community.

“The local Honor Guard showed up with less than 24 hours’ notice to perform my brother’s funerary rights,” he said. “It moved me so much, I immediately joined my local VFW, Post 4086, and Legion.”

Today, Casey performs the same solemn duty for other military families. He is #StillServing in this way and others with support from his service dog, River.

“She joins me at all our Post meetings, where she not only helps me but any veteran in the room,” he said.

Since receiving River, Casey has become more active and confident in his community.

“She allows me far more breadth and width to do things more comfortably than I ever did without her,” he said. “She is an absolute blessing — and she’s a joy to watch play Frisbee, which she lives for!”

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